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Hot Tomato's Emily Jade O'Keeffe, Magic Millions ambassador Mike Tindall and Channel 7's Amanda Abate and Liz Cantor at the Gold Coast Turf Club for the Magic Millions race day. Picture: Portia Large.

MAGIC MIKE & MEMORIES

The Magic Millions has been run and done with one of the country's premier racing events a big winner with royals, celebrities and punters here on the Gold Coast. REPORT P3, PICTURES P10-11

MARY'S ROYAL RISE

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KERR ON WORLD STAGE

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TOURISM TOP-UP

$2.5m recovery boost for storm-hit GC operators

The state government will inject $2.5m into getting the Gold Coast tourism sector back on track after a storm-affected Christmas and new year period. Visitors will be given access to more than 50,000 vouchers to use on experiences across the city. REPORT, PAGE 2

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Franc Jrs co-owner Carlos Lara with some of their delicious pizza at their Nobby Beach outlet. Picture: Glenn Hampson

Hot demand for pizzeria

Crystal Fox

A southern Gold Coast pizza shop has proved so wildly popular its owners have had no choice but to open a second restaurant.

Franc Jrs Pizzeria owners Anthony Pattinson, Claudia Pattinson, James Young and Carlos Lara revealed their latest venue at Nobby Beach on January 4. Mr Pattinson said it was a long time coming after the popularity of the original Coolangatta store – which opened in 2017 – "got out of hand".

"Wait times can get out of hand in Coolangatta," he said.

"Sometimes you would arrive at 5.15pm and only 15 minutes after opening you would be No.63 on the list.

"While that's fun and very flattering for us, it's not sustainable.

"So the second shop was inevitable and what people deserved."

Mr Pattinson said they chose Nobby Beach – also home to the hyped new Oxley precinct – because it was "the perfect neighbourhood".

"We like to think of ourselves as a neighbourhood pizzeria and Nobbys still has that local feel. A little grimy and very real."

Mr Pattinson said they were confident their business would make it through light-rail construction currently plaguing the dining and retail strip.

"I hate the construction side of (light rail), but I love the idea that you could have dinner up and down the coast and have a shandy at each stop along the way when it's complete," he said.

Mr Pattinson said their Detroit Style pizza would "change your life".

"It's a take on a Sicilian style pizza," he said.

Mr Pattinson said the Orange Stripe pizza was his favourite, but locals loved the cheese pies.

"(The cheese pies) are 16 inches of the best dough, the best tomato sauce and our cheese blend that has six different cheeses."

Frozen margaritas were another crowd favourite.

Mr Pattinson said the old-school 1940s Italian-American style space was designed with locals in mind.

"The place was made to be enjoyed," he said.

$2.5m boost aimed at stimulating business

Andrew Potts

The state government will inject $25m into getting the Gold Coast tourism sector back on track after a nightmare storm-affected Christmas and new year period.

Tourists and locals will be given access to more than 50,000 vouchers to use on experiences including theme parks across the city as part of the GC Summer FUNds initiative.

It has been developed by the government, Experience Gold Coast (EGC) and Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) to help the industry and traders bounce back.

Premier Steven Miles said it was critical to help businesses not lose out after the natural disasters.

"The Gold Coast is one of Queensland's tourism hot spots because of the world class attractions and experiences on offer," he said.

"This summer our tourism operators have been some of the hardest hit here and in Cairns, so it's time we help them get back on their feet.

"If you've been thinking of visiting Queensland, why not get take a trip to the GC with some Summer FUNds in your pocket. That is good news for the economy, good news for jobs and, of course, good news for tourism operators."

While most of the city has remained open despite the storms which hit on Christmas night, "booking hesitancy" has been a major issue.

Mayor Tom Tate said the FUNds concept had previously helped boost the sector during Covid when tourism essentially closed down.

"This is a proven strategy that we know works well to get locals and visitors alike exploring their own backyard and the immediate injection will help to stimulate our economic recovery," he said.

"Queenslanders, there's never been a better time to jump onto that Gold Coast experience you've always wanted to do and show your support."

EGC CEO John Warn said the industry and the businesses which form part of it needed support.

"Our industry demonstrates its resilience time and again but during this peak tourism season it needs our support more than ever as many operators begin the task of rebuilding," he said.

"This initiative is our way of getting Queenslanders behind our experience-based operators who we know were the most impacted by cancellations during what was anticipated to be our biggest summer since 2019."

The Christmas night storm forced the closure of all theme parks excluding Sea World after they were damaged or lost power.

Paradise Country and its farmstay will both finally reopen on January 26 after more than a month of repairs.

Top Golf, which received catastrophic damage, remains closed.

Village Roadshow COO, Bikash Randhawa said the funding would "provide a much-needed boost for the industry.

"With a limited allocation of promotional codes available, I'd encourage people to get in early to avoid missing out," he said.

Two men killed in plane crash

Kate Kyriacou

Two men aged 69 and 82 have been killed in a light plane crash in the Scenic Rim, metres from where people were playing golf.

Emergency services were called to Bruckner Hill Rd in Dugandan, near the entrance to the Boonah Golf Club, shortly before noon on Sunday after the plane crashed into the ground.

Paramedics rushed to the scene but the pilot and passenger could not be saved.

Ipswich Acting Inspector Kerry Olsen confirmed nobody survived the crash.

"There was a plane crash reported in the Dugandan area and tragically two people have lost their lives as a result of that crash," she said.

"We have police who are engaging with the families ... of the two persons who were on that plane and we wish their families every possible amount of support that can be provided to them at this time."

She said police were not aware of any mayday call from the aircraft but that it would form part of the investigation.

Inspector Olsen said the plane had taken off from the Boonah airfield and was returning when it crashed.

"That is something the investigators will have to pursue, in terms of any transmissions that were made from the aircraft," she said.

"We are aware that there are many members of the community who may have witnessed this particular crash and our thoughts are also with those persons.

"As you can imagine, any crash scene can be quite confronting and the first responders managed to respond to that very quickly but members of the community may also have been impacted.

"We would like to request if possible that if anyone has any form of footage... if they are able to provide that to Policelink.

"And if there are any witnesses to the actual crash, if they also could contact Policelink that would be greatly appreciated."

Inspector Olsen said she believed "many" people were on the golf course when the plane crashed near the carpark area.

Storm Boy takes out the Magic Millions 2YO Classic for jockey Adam Hyeronimus and trainers Gai Waterhouse and Adrian Bott. Picture: Grant Peters/Trackside Photography and (inset) Part owner Stephanie Cunningham with Storm Boy.

Coast gallops home with trackside magic

Ryan Keen

The Gold Coast won on and off track at the city's most lucrative Magic Millions race day with a Main Beach family winning the main race as a record crowd watched on.

The washout cancellation of the $14.25m race day a year ago was all but forgotten as the sun shone on a record crowd of 24,500 at the Gold Coast Turf Club on Saturday.

Turf Club CEO Steve Lines said he'd "never seen it so big", confirming 24,500 patrons.

"The club returns were huge. Magic Millions just has gravitas," he said

The turnout included the Cunningham family, the majority owners of the $3m Two Year Old Classic winner Storm Boy, whose patriarchs Lorilee and Gary live at Main Beach.

Daughter Stephanie Cunningham said the Storm Boy win was a "wonderful moment for our family and whole team".

"It was incredible, Storm Boy just blew us away, so dominant," she said, adding it was "great fun" celebrating at Nineteen at the Star after.

"There was a lot of celebrating."

Her brother Mitchell Cunnigham, the general manager of Ridgmont broodmare farm, said the family had been looking to buy into offspring of top stallion Justify when trainer Gai Waterhouse advertised Storm Boy for investment about six months ago.

"We were looking for Justify stock with a top trainer. So we bought the lion's share."

Famously, Ms Waterhouse paraded Storm Boy around a Penrith garden bar also asking for investors, with 15 chipping in that day as minor shareholders with the Cunninghams. Mitchell Cunningham said he also sold 12 of 13 yearlings at auction during the week, averaging $280,000, grossing $3.4m.

"It's a really good sale and we love being on the Gold Coast. Between the breeding and racing, it's frantic but we love it and it's hard to beat.

"You can tell from my hoarse voice we certainly enjoyed all that The Star has to offer (last night)."

Meanwhile, trackside were Royalty and Magic Millions ambassadors Zara Tindall and her former English rugby star husband Mike Tindall, with the latter at one point photobombing Gold Coast media trio Emily Jade-O'Keeffe, of Hot Tomato radio and 7 News Gold Coast's Amanda Abate and Liz Cantor. Cantor said Mike Tindall was "just a laugh".

"I felt someone come up behind us and I was like 'Oh it's just Mike again – of course it is.

"That's why we just love them here – Mike and Zara, they are larrikins and they capture the Aussie spirit so well. They are living in the wrong country, they should be living here."

Next year's Magic Millions Saturday race day will be preceded by its first night racing card on the Friday under the turf club's new night lights, part of a $63m club upgrade.

Emily Jade O'Keeffe, Mike Tindall, Amanda Abate and Liz Cantor at the Magic Millions VIP Marquee 2024 at the Gold Coast Turf Club for Gold Coast at Large. Picture: Portia Large.

Developer snaps up tower site

Andrew Potts

A mystery developer has snapped up the site of a proposed tower in the mansion-filled riverfront streets of Surfers Paradise for a record $9.35m.

Plans for an 18-storey unit complex have been pitched for a 1000sq m site on Sunset Boulevard and will be the first tower built on the strip, which fronts the Nerang River overlooking the Home of the Arts.

Agents Alex and Victoria Fleri, from Amir Prestige, negotiated the sale and said the unnamed buyer expected more projects to emerge for the street.

"The area is set to be the next development hotspot on the Gold Coast (and) the process has been long drawn out with our first buyer having to pull out of contract due to market difficulties," Mr Fleri said.

"A new developer with vast experience in mid-rise boutique constructions understood the dynamics of the site and the growth corridor which will be created once the HOTA centre is expanded further."

The site was owned by Rani Lin since April 1990 and had been on the market since 2021.

It is currently occupied by a pair of two-storey waterfront mansions which will be demolished to make way for the redevelopment.

Artist impression of the 18-storey tower.

Artist quits AI creations

HAMBURG: An artist who shook up the cultural world with a haunting female portrait created by artificial intelligence has decided she's had enough of the new technology for now.

Working with AI to create art was ultimately "very frustrating and very limiting," Swedish-based artist Supercomposite said.

She said her experience with AI art left her "burnt out".

"It creates this dopamine path in your brain. It's very addictive to keep pushing that button and getting these results," Supercomposite said.

Supercomposite created the red-cheeked, hollow-eyed woman called "Loab" in 2022 when she was testing out the new artistic possibilities offered by AI.

Her posts on social media of Loab and about the process to create her went viral.

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Danes herald a new era as Frederik and Mary reign

MARY DONALDSON WAS A COMMONER WHEN SHE MARRIED A DANISH PRINCE IN 2004, AND NOW SHE IS THE NEWLY-CROWNED, AUSTRALIAN-BORN QUEEN OF DENMARK

Australian-born Andrew Mina, 43, and his daughter, Annika, 12, live in Copenhagen and will celebrate the proclamation. Picture: Danielle Gusmaroli

Danielle Gusmaroli in Copenhagen, and David Mills

Long live Mary, the newly-crowned, Australian-born Queen of Denmark.

With giant fireworks and parties that were expected to go long into the night, Denmark has welcomed in the reign of Queen Mary and King Frederik, who were proclaimed by Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen on the balcony of Copenhagen's Christiansborg Castle.

Prince Christian

Their ascension to the throne came as Danes honoured the service of their beloved Queen Margrethe II, who announced her decision to abdicate in favour of her son in a televised address on New Year's Day.

Her 52 years on the throne had made her the world's longest-serving monarch, a record she had held since the death of her third cousin, Britain's Queen Elizabeth, in September 2022.

Around 100,000 Danes lined the streets on Sunday to catch a glimpse of Queen Margrethe in her last act as monarch, making her way to Christiansborg Castle in a gold carriage escorted by guards on horseback. Media from 79 countries covered the event.

Former Melburnian Lucas Kraeddergaard, 33, from Copenhagen, was among the Aussies in the crowd at Christiansborg Palace.

"Queen Margrethe's abdication is a moment in history I'll never see again in my lifetime," he said. "Duty has characterised her reign; we're indebted to her. And we're excited about getting a new reign.

"Everyone loves Queen Mary. I've met her several times and whenever she hears my Aussie accent she tells me 'That's so nice.'

Sydney-born Andrew Mina, 43, and his daughter Annika, 12, who live in Copenhagen, said they had camped out early to see the celebrations. They had both met the royal couple, and Annika plays football with the couple's youngest twin daughter, Princess Josephine.

"We're excited to be getting a new reign and an Australian Queen," Mr Mina said.

Annika said of her teammate: "Princess Josephine has been training hard and is really quite good at football and plays attacker. She's really friendly and nice.

"I sometimes see her mum sitting in the car waiting to pick her up after football – they're a pretty cool family," she said.

The transition was put into immediate effect when Queen Margrethe signed a declaration of her abdication in front of the Danish Council of State, as well as Frederik and Mary and their eldest son, Christian, 18, who is now the direct heir to the throne.

> "We're excited to be getting a new reign and an Australian Queen"
>
> **Andrew Mina**
> Australian living in Copenhagen

While there was no official Australian presence at a brief ceremony following the Council of State meeting, Queen Mary had a reminder of her former home in the presence of her sister Jane Stephens, a Hobart-based pharmacist who is also godmother to Crown Prince Christian. Her father John was unable to attend because of poor health.

Danes got their first glimpse of King Frederik X and Queen Mary when they were proclaimed on the balcony by Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen.

Afterwards, the royal couple were transported in the gold carriage to the family abode within Amalienborg Palace.

Crowds jammed the octagonal square outside Amalienborg hoping for a glimpse of their new-look royal family, with the photogenic and still-young ruling couple (Frederik is 55, Mary 51) at its heart.

The occasion was marked by cannon shots at the entrance to Copenhagen Harbour, the raising of the royal flag and, later, a massive fireworks display over the city.

Britain's King Charles was among the other monarchs who sent a message of congratulations, saying that along with his wife, Queen Camilla, "I look forward to working with you on ensuring that the enduring bond between our countries, and our families, remains strong, and to working together with you on issues which matter so much for our countries and the wider world."

He paid tribute to the "many years of service" of Queen Margrethe in his public statement, and wrote to her privately, as well.

Celebrations are set to continue with a parliamentary reception on Monday, and a mass next Sunday.

Hobart-born Mary's path to the Danish crown began in the year 2000, soon after she met the then Prince Frederik in a Sydney bar during the Olympic Games. Their courtship stayed secret until November 2001, when a Danish magazine revealed Mary's identity.

Mary married Frederik in 2004, and she came to be highly regarded by both the Danish people and Queen Margrethe.

Lykke Borup, Nick Procter and Ingrid Geoghegan toast the coronation. Picture: Valeriu Campan

Former Crown Prince Frederik and former Crown Princess Mary of Denmark on the balcony of Amalienborg Palace, top right, in May 2018. The couple are now King and Queen of Denmark following the abdication of Queen Margrethe II, right, who, in her last act as monarch, made her way to Christiansborg Castle in a gold carriage escorted by guards on horseback. Pictures: Getty Images, AFP

Expats toast a jewel in the crown

Charles Miranda

Aussie-born Mary's ascension as Queen of Denmark was the jewel in the crown that will forever tie the two nations, according to expat Danes in Australia.

Australia's modest but passionately proud Danish community was always going to celebrate the once-in-a-generation crowning of a new King and Queen.

But they did so on Sunday with added gusto for the Queen from Down Under, toasting the bonus connection with Akvavit shots and pickled herring and cucumber smorrebrod.

"The Danish community is of course very excited," the Danish Club vice president Lykke Borup said. "Everyone is really supporting it and, for me, (Margrethe) has been the only Queen I've ever known and I'm only in my 40s, so it's definitely a once-in-a-generation kind of event.

"Having that Australian connection (Mary) is now also just making it more exciting for us here, I think. Frederik and Mary, both of them, are like such a power couple, so I think it's perfect timing for the royal family and for them and for their son Christian, too, to step up – he's just turned 18 – as Crown Prince. I couldn't think of a better timing (for succession) ... they will put Denmark more on the map."

The 134-year-old Danish Club is one of the oldest cultural clubs in Australia and is usually closed this time of year but opened its Melbourne headquarters for a succession celebration.

Ms Borup, an award-winning jeweller, has her own personal connection with the royals with her family's jewellery business in Denmark making pieces for the royal family, including Mary.

Fellow ex-pat Dane Rasmus Fiedler, who runs social and cultural gatherings under the banner Young Vikings in Town, also has a royal connection, having met Frederik and Mary in 2011 during a royal visit to Australia. "It's great for us in Australia to have an Australian-born queen," he said. "They are so popular compared to the English royal family ... and to have Mary come here every year for her family is great, but I'm not sure how that will pan out now. She probably won't be able to do that alone any more."

Mr Fiedler said the best thing about having an Aussie queen meant you could read about her regularly in the Australian news.

"I'm not sure if you lived in Hungary you'd be reading the same about the Danish royal court and I don't hear much about the Swedish royal court here either," he joked.

With three in four Danes in support of the current system, Mary takes her place at the head of one of Europe's most beloved monarchies, at a time when support for royalty in the Netherlands, Sweden and Spain is plummeting.

But the timing is awkward. Queen Margrethe's surprise decision to abdicate, after earlier saying she intended never to do so, and the haste with which the handover happened, fuelled rival conspiracy theories: one that she is in poorer health than previously believed; and the other suggesting the transition was done to sideline recent gossip that Frederik had had an affair with a Mexican socialite in Spain, a claim which that woman denied.

The crowning of the new King and Queen is already creating speculation that a state visit to Australia could be on the cards, although a 2024 trip is considered unlikely because of the planned official visit by King Charles and Queen Camilla.

While state visits by non-British royals are not common in Australia, they do occur. In 2016, the Dutch King Willem-Alexander and Queen Máxima visited Perth, Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane as the guest of then Governor-General Peter Cosgrove.

A government spokesperson said: "Denmark and Australia are great friends. King Frederick and Queen Mary will always be welcome to visit Australia."

The royal couple could be embarking on several trips in their first 12 months on the throne.

Visits to the Danish territories of Greenland and the Faroe Islands are virtual certainties, while Scotland has already made an unofficial invitation, because of Queen Mary's Scottish heritage.

"She and Prince Frederik will be hugely welcome in Scotland after his coronation," Scotland's external affairs secretary Angus Robertson was recently quoted as saying.

Quentin Tod

Riverfront mansion possibilities for Coulsons

The Coulson house on the Isle of Capri that fetched record $26.88m; and (inset) Carolyne and Bruce Coulson. Picture: Supplied

Bruce Coulson, no new kid in the game when it comes to property, could be on his way to building another riverfront Gold Coast mansion.

Kool Kids early-learning founder Bruce and wife Carolyne became kings of the river in 2020 when they sold an Isle of Capri giant for a Gold Coast record $26.88m.

The couple, in the wake of exiting a riverfront home in Monaco St at Broadbeach Waters for $13.5m in July, quietly have spent $14m on adjoining riverfront homes in the same street.

The move emulates their decision seven years ago when they outlaid $13.5m on properties on which to build their record-breaking Capri home.

That house, on The Promenade, sold out of the blue when Chinese buyers knocked on the door one morning and made a very persuasive offer.

The three-level home, which spans 3000sq m, is on a 2972sq m site.

The latest foray by Bruce, the Gold Coast Suns No.1 fan, and his wife involves adjoining north-facing homes that between them sit on 1336sq m of land toward the eastern end of Monaco St and fronting a wide section of the river.

It remains to be seen whether the Coulsons, if their plan is to build another giant, are content with a site of that size or want to add another property – or two.

Bruce, who moved to the Gold Coast in 1998 from Victoria, is every bit an entrepreneur.

His first job, as a 15-year-old, was sandblasting metal but he didn't hang around when he found out that if he stayed on, and moved up the chain, the earning potential was meagre.

He headed to the Clive Savage-run Clive Peeters electrical super stores in a move that was to change his life.

Clive became his mentor, put some spark into his ambitions and, in Bruce's words, changed his life.

He set up Kool Kids after moving to the Gold Coast and sold a dozen centres to the listed G8 group in 2015, based in Southport.

Bruce has gone on to establish a Kools Kids training college for early-learning staff.

Two years ago he partnered with the Suns to develop a $10m childcare centre adjacent to the AFL team's home stadium.

The entrepreneur, unbeknown to many people, has become an adept player in the commercial and retail property field, aside from his forays into building early-learning centres.

He had the foresight several years ago to buy sites in northern NSW.

The upshot has seen him go on to the develop a Byron Bay venture, The Hive, based on New York's Chelsea markets, and The Commons, a shopping village at Casuarina.

Four years ago he sold a block of 15 new apartments in Southport to the Queensland Government for use as public housing.

Bruce opened a few eyes in 2022 when he bought a building in the main retail street at Burleigh Heads on a yield of less than 4 per cent.

The Coulsons didn't slum it after their record-setting 2020 Isle of Capri sale.

They headed to Broadbeach Waters and paid property consultant Jonathan Gross $8.5m for a large Monaco St home.

They renovated it, added a partial third level, and last year sold it for $13.5m.

Meanwhile, the Coulsons haven't always had the Midas touch when it comes to homes.

They bought a property on Capri's Naples Ave in 2017 with plans to demolish it and rebuild but moved on to their major project on The Promenade and sold the home at a $400,000 loss.

David Fang, part of the Chinese company that was a rebuffed contender to build an integrated resort on the Spit, has turned $15m into $26m on the Surfers Paradise beachfront. He has been a beneficiary of veteran developer Harry Triguboff's $67.5m purchase of a site that takes in David's Dolphins low-rise on The Esplanade and his Pitstop outlet behind it fronting the highway. David is a director of the listed and multi-faceted ASF group, which owns a Southport tower site and which lost $11m in its latest year.

Elizabeth Meixner, an octogenarian who, with older sister Helga Lithgow, has sold a large oceanfront Kirra site for a tad over $32m, has plans for a boutique apartment project on adjacent land. She's been given the green light for a seven-level building with six whole-floor apartments in Pacific Pde, a street loaded with mid-rise buildings. Elizabeth, founder of serum producer Moregate Biotech, and her sister have sold their 4800sq m site to developer Todd Mould's MAYD group, which plans hotel and apartment buildings which also will front Golden Four Drive and Musgrave St.

Danny Andrews, who's taken his apartment prowess from the beachfront to Robina, has spent $2.14m to continue a love affair with Paradise Waters that started more than 20 years ago. The developer, who's behind Main Beach tower Dune and has started twin towers called Cascade at Robina, has bought an older home on the corner of Admiralty Drive and Midshipman Crt. Danny, who between 2000 and 2003 owned three properties in Seafarer Crt, and wife Glenda live at the head of Midshipman and daughter Sarah owns a $7.4m abode in the street. In August, the Andrews sold a former family home on the Isle of Capri for $6m.

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HOT PROPERTY *with* VIVA HYDE & ALEISHA DAWSON

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Versatile forest estate

The Tomewin Mountain Rd property in the Currumbin Valley.

A secluded Currumbin Valley estate with a hoop pine forest amphitheatre built to host VIP events and productions is up for grabs.

Solis Estate has featured in music videos by Astronaut in the Ocean rapper Masked Wolf, and was the location for a wild party hosted by international DJ Fisher during the pandemic.

The luxury 3.55ha property on Tomewin Mountain Rd in the Currumbin Valley is marketed by Emisha Canning, of Harcourts Coastal, and goes to auction on February 10.

Perched on Tomewin Mountain and commanding ocean views, Solis has been owned by fitness entrepreneur Aaron Matheson since 2019.

Property features include a luxury five-bedroom main residence, separate farmhouse and two micro cabins, along with an epic pool house and outdoor function spaces, set across tropical grounds.

Mr Matheson undertook extensive refurbishments, upgrading the home and transforming an existing machinery shed into a wellness sanctuary with a large yoga studio and outdoor gym.

"I wanted the space to be a combination of a private retreat, but also somewhere suited to photo shoots. That wouldn't have been possible in the forest as it was because the hoop pine was clumped so closely together," Mr Matheson said.

Trees were cleared to make way for a central platform Mr Matheson described as "one of the most magical spaces", which could be used as a yoga deck or for private events.

He is selling due to interstate family commitments.

Gold Coast music producer Paul Fisher was first to use the amphitheatre, for a 2020 party celebrating the launch of his alcoholic beverage brand, Hard Fizz.

In 2022 and 2023, Burleigh Heads-based artist Masked Wolf, otherwise known as 32-year-old Harry Michaels, filmed three clips at the property.

Ms Canning said the property stood out, "as one of the finest offerings in Currumbin Valley".

Described as "versatile", the estate could suit various uses, such as for a health retreat, short-term accommodation, or "simply your dream family home".

Native wildlife includes wallabies, eagles and turtles, while organic gardens and lemon myrtle groves are also abundant.

Located just 20 minutes from Currumbin Beach, the estate offers "an idyllic combination of seclusion and accessibility representing the best of both worlds", the listing states.

PropTrack data shows a typical home in Currumbin Valley costs $1.678m, up 2 per cent through 2023.

SALES RESULTS

$1.95 MILLION

28 Northwater Drive, Hope Island

This dual level, north facing waterfront property is in a tightly held pocket of Hope Island Resort. The five-bedroom residence has a covered alfresco terrace with pool as well as direct access to the seaway. Tracy Tomars of LJ Hooker Property Hub handled the sale.

$1.3 MILLION

19 Amulla Court, Mudgeeraba

Stuart Legg and Jake Albertson of RE/MAX Regency - Gold Coast marketed this one-of-a-kind property in Mudgeeraba. The four-bedroom house includes high ceilings, polished flooring and modern kitchen and bathrooms. The property last changed hands in 2005 for $525,000.

$1.19 MILLION

109 Palm Beach Avenue, Palm Beach

This level block was marketed as a "prime opportunity for investors, developers or home builders" who were looking to create a new property within walking distance to the beach and popular restaurants and cafes. Laura Dean of McGrath Estate Agents Palm Beach sold the property.

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Carla Mascarenhas

For Aussies game enough to live and work in Antarctica a massive payday could be in store.

The remote but beautiful continent 6400km from Australia is full of opportunities.

A season in Antarctica can earn you over $200,000 a year working with the Australian Antarctic Program (AAP).

The program coordinates Australia's activities in Antarctica, from scientific research through to logistics and transport. The AAP's vision, according to its website, is to ensure Antarctica is valued, protected and understood by supporting world-leading science.

"From the smallest microbes, to krill (the keystone species of the Antarctic ecosystem), to blue whales (the largest animals to have ever existed), the research conducted through the Australian Antarctic Program helps protect the unique environment and biological systems of Antarctica and the Southern Ocean," the website reads.

There are currently 33 roles open to Aussies – ranging from tradies to medics.

A boilermaker would earn a base salary and allowance of $145,142 a year, a communications operator $136,409 and a chef up to $145,142.

Locals ready for a fight over Arundel estate development

Gold Coast Division 7 candidate Jenna Schroeder outside the Arundel Hills site and (inset) a map showing location for support or objection to the development.

Golf club plan in limbo

Paul Weston

A development application which will turn the rundown Arundel Hills golf course into a $150m residential estate is poised to be rejected by Gold Coast City Council.

Planning officers have recommended a refusal to a change of use application which would see 380 houses providing homes for more than 1200 people on the 67ha site off Arundel Drive.

Documents reveal the development application received 1163 objections, most of them from nearby residents.

Only 119 submissions were made in support. Objectors were concerned about how the project would impact the amenity of their suburb, cause problems for wildlife and see the loss of critical sporting and recreation land.

Councillors will vote on the recommendation at a planning committee meeting on January 22 and three days later when full council meets for the first time this year.

Division 7 candidate Jenna Schroeder, who has spoken to Arundel residents about their concerns regarding the golf club since early 2023, predicts the development row will end in a court appeal.

"I've spoken to the developer numerous times to address residents' concerns about dangerous trees and broken fencing on the site, after these were raised with me," she said.

The tree-lined streets around the course were smashed by the Christmas Eve storm. The Arundel Hills Community Association is gearing up for future court action.

> **"It's clear that the community's fight to preserve the character and environmental value of Arundel Hills is far from over**
>
> **Division 7 candidate Jenna Schroeder**

"It's clear that the community's fight to preserve the character and environmental value of Arundel Hills is far from over," Ms Schroeder said.

"The committee knew this was a possible outcome and have been making their own preparations. It's clear this fight will continue for a long time and I'll continue to ensure their voices are heard and acted upon."

Arundel Hills Golf Course Community Reference group committee member Jason Young in a video post described the officer's recommendation as "an extremely encouraging result".

"We will need to wait for council's full vote on the DA and then await the developer's response. The fight is likely to continue – you can't replace green space," he said.

The developer, Arundel Estate Developments Pty Ltd, had vowed to keep 7.97ha, or 59 per cent of the site's existing koala habitat.

Zhongsheng Management, the company that previously owned and operated the golf club, was placed in external administration in May 2022.

The club had been left deserted and the facilities in disrepair with the site eventually sold. The developers in 2022 lodged a new master plan sparking widespread community debate.

Officers in their report said the development would see the clearing of 77,800sq m of general and medium priority vegetation including 1150 non-juvenile koala habitat trees.

"Submitters detailed the various environmental values of the site, including wildlife that use the site for habitat and movement, which would be severely impacted by the proposal," officers wrote.

City officers acknowledged that the impacted residential properties do not "own the view" over the subject site, however amenity and residential character was a key assessment criteria.

"The proposed residential density is significantly out of character with the established character of the existing residential neighbourhood," officers wrote.

Officers said the subject site was a privately owned, non-operational golf course, previously the Arundel Hills Country Club, located within the sport and recreation zone.

"The proposal involves the removal of the sport and recreation function and values of the site, and the loss of sport and recreation zoned land within the City," officers wrote.

City officers undertook a site inspection in April 2023 where they said it was evident the site represented an essential refuge for wildlife within the urban area with high numbers of eastern grey kangaroos, active bird nests, habitat trees, waterways and koala scats identified.

A Tribute To Amy Winehouse

The Day She Came To Dingle

an Amy Winehouse concept show inspired by The Day She Came To Dingle - think stripped back, acoustic in spirit. Unlike anything Australia has seen. A unique celebration of the beloved star and musical icon. The opportunity to appreciate the music and legacy of Amy Winehouse in an intimate way with guitarist Harvey Blues and Jeremy Klysz from Blues Arcadia, Natascha Matthes on percussion and singer, Ella La Muse.

There are Limited tickets available for this 'One shining night' a show not to be missed!
At the Bearded Lady in West End! Saturday 24th of February - Grab your tickets at: humanitix.com/amy winehouse

Record number of croc reports

Jeremy Pierce

Queensland experienced a record number of crocodile sightings last year as debate continues over whether there should be a cull of the reptiles.

According to data from the Queensland Department of Environment, Science and Innovation, there were 1216 saltwater or estuarine crocodile sightings reported in 2023, smashing the previous record of 1185 set in 2021.

The numbers are a huge increase on a decade ago, when there were just 336 sightings reported to the department.

However, a department spokesperson said an increase in sightings did not necessarily mean a surge in crocodile numbers, as the advent of mobile phone apps and online portals made it easier to report sightings and there was no way to distinguish whether a single crocodile may have been sighted or reported on multiple occasions.

Outback Queensland politicians Bob and Robbie Katter have long been vocal in calling for a cull of the apex predators, with calls growing louder after the death of Laura pub owner Kevin Darmody in a crocodile attack last April.

It followed a number of close encounters between humans and crocs in the state's north, while several pet dogs were also taken by crocodiles.

There have been four other fatal attacks on humans in Queensland in the past seven years, including the death of fisherman Andrew Heard off Hinchinbrook Island in 2021.

Under Queensland law, crocodiles remain a protected species, with the reptiles only euthanised as a last resort in special cases. About 50 crocs were relocated last year, with six euthanised.

There has also been a push to allow the harvesting of crocodile eggs as a way to control populations, but according to DESI, no eggs were collected last year.

The number of crocodiles removed from Queensland waterways last year (48) was lower than in the several previous years, with almost half (22) occurring in the Cairns region while nine were removed from waters on the Cassowary Coast near Innisfail.

Drivers slugged twice

Human error causes duplication of 16,000 rego notices

Stephanie Bennett

More than 16,000 Queenslanders have been issued duplicate vehicle registration notices in an embarrassing blunder, forcing Transport and Main Roads to cough up an estimated hundreds of thousands of dollars in refunds.

An error in October saw duplicate vehicle registration notices sent out, with 967 Queenslanders promptly paying their bills.

But the October 21 notices had already been mailed on July 21, with Department of Transport and Main Roads saying an error at a mail house vendor contracted by the department resulted in 16,401 customers being incorrectly billed.

Transport Minister Bart Mellish.

"(TMR) has proactively engaged with these customers and automatically refunded over 95 per cent prior to the end of November 2023," a spokeswoman said.

But with some customers paying their bill through Australia Post, the department has been unable to automatically refund the additional 5 per cent – about 45 customers – who have now paid their vehicle registrations twice.

"TMR continues to proactively engage with any outstanding customers to prompt them to take action to have the matter resolved," the spokeswoman said.

The department did not answer questions on how much money had to be refunded, but with a basic annual vehicle registration more than $700, it was estimated it could have been more than half a million dollars.

Newly appointed Transport Minister Bart Mellish – who replaced embattled minister Mark Bailey during the December ministerial reshuffle sparked by the resignation of Annastacia Palaszczuk – said "human error" was to blame.

Mr Mellish said TMR had undertaken an immediate review of the incident and had received assurances from the third-party provider that "measures were in place to ensure this disappointing error would not happen again".

In September, Mr Bailey was forced to apologise when almost 2000 drivers were incorrectly given double demerit points through the government's camera detected offence program over almost two years.

LNP cost of living spokeswoman Deb Frecklington said it was unacceptable so many Queenslanders had "received a bill from the government they didn't have to pay" and accused the government of seeking to "blame others".

"Queenslanders just want to know the bills they're getting are real."

Fuel Bakehouse co-owners Emma McPherson and Ben Edwards. Picture: Glenn Hampson

Bakery's success just keeps on rising

Crystal Fox

A Currumbin bakery known for its pastries, doughnuts and pies has expanded its empire, opening a third venue in one of the Gold Coast's most popular beachside suburbs.

Fuel Bakehouse owners Emma McPherson, Ben Edwards and Luke Finter debuted their newest eatery on James St in Burleigh Heads on Boxing Day.

Ms McPherson said a Burleigh bakery had been a goal for the trio after the success of their Currumbin and Cabarita outlets.

"When the perfect opportunity popped up it was go time," she said.

Ms McPherson said their new venue had a similar menu to Currumbin, including bacon and egg deluxe rolls, pastries, doughnuts, pies and sausage rolls.

Fuel Bakehouse was born when original owner Mr Edwards took over Currumbin Creek Bakery and relaunched under the new name.

"He wanted to do things differently to other bakeries," Ms McPherson said. "He wanted it to be somewhere people could feel at home and it be the best part of someone's day."

When Mr Edwards teamed up with Mr Finter to open the second store at Cabarita, they realised they had a hit on their hands.

"Rain, hail or shine that place pumps."

The newest member of the ownership team, Ms McPherson has spent the past three years learning the ropes.

Cairo arts centre razed

CAIRO: Nestled in the heart of historic Cairo, a cultural centre synonymous with the Egyptian capital's art scene has been razed, the latest heritage site torn down for development projects.

Authorities have been aggressively remaking parts of Cairo, a longtime cultural beacon of the Arab world, to expand the capital, home to more than 20 million people.

The government has built roads and bridges to connect new districts and business hubs, a glitzy makeover as Egypt faces a dire economic crisis.

The Darb 1718 centre was demolished "without any prior notice", its management said on social media, for a highway expansion.

For 15 years, the centre – named for bread riots in January 17-18, 1977 – had drawn artists and art lovers.

Taylor Swift

Conspiracy theorists love Swift

WASHINGTON: A US Fox News host has suggested that Taylor Swift is a "front for a covert political agenda," echoing disinformation that has percolated in right-wing circles for months – and which experts say will get worse before the 2024 US election.

The Jesse Watters segment warning Swift could be a "Pentagon asset" offered the latest conspiracy theory exploiting the singer-songwriter's fame and her past support for Democrats such as President Joe Biden. Attacks targeting Swift in recent months have ranged from personal barbs to accusations of witchcraft and speculation about her political involvement.

Swift's stature grew in 2023 as she broke music records, performed the highest-grossing music tour in history and began dating US footballer Travis Kelce. Time Magazine named her Person of the Year.

Fringe influencers such as far-right radio host Stew Peters accused her of witchcraft at concerts and claimed she was "responsible for murder" after Kelce appeared in a vaccine ad. Doctored images shared online falsely linked her to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, while several conservative commentators have insulted her private life and appearance.

Lizzie Walmsley and Sally Crisis. Picture: Richard Gosling

Melanie Pickering and Yvonne Gay. Picture: Richard Gosling

Emma Kirkwood and Kyle Ropa. Picture: Richard Gosling

Paula Yates, Erin Napier and Sian Napier. Picture: Steve Pohlner

Nadine and Benjamin Dimitrioski. Picture: Richard Gosling

Mixing with royalty at Magic Millions

The Magic Millions race day has again supercharged the Gold Coast hospitality scene with its mix of royalty, and movers and shakers coming together with a packed Gold Coast Turf Club.

Seven News Gold Coast lotto and weather presenter Liz Cantor said visiting royals Zara and Mike Tindall never failed to impress, mixing in the main VIP marquee trackside along with heavyweights of business, politics and fashion.

Ms Cantor: "They are one of the most down-to-earth couples I have ever encountered.

"Greets us every year by name, never forgets a name, it might be royal manners but I feel he comes across as someone who is really happy to be here and seamlessly fits into the Gold Coast crowd."

Gold Coast entertainment guru Billy Cross with wife Jackie hosted the after-party at their Nineteen at the Star rooftop bar with a packed house including the 2YO Classic main race winners the Cunninghams. Mr Cross said he did no good on the track, but was happy about things off it, saying events like Magic Millions are "so good" for the social scene. "The main race winners come up every year to celebrate. These events really add to the social calendar and seem to get bigger and better. They had the trophy with them – it's quite heavy."

Tia and Jordan Taaffe enjoy Magic Millions. Picture: Steve Pohlner

Kelly Garrett, Amy Cornish and Sally Ritchie. Picture: Steve Pohlner

Advertisement

Community recovery

Do you need assistance after recent weather events?

If you've been directly impacted by recent severe weather you can find financial assistance, Community Recovery Hub locations and other support services at **qld.gov.au/disasterhelp**

On the website you can also:

- ✓ check your eligibility for assistance before applying for grants
- ✓ find out what information you need to complete an online grant application
- ✓ understand the next steps in the application process.

If you are unable to get online, you can call the Community Recovery Hotline on **1800 173 349** or visit a Community Recovery Hub.

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Financial support is jointly funded by the Queensland and Australian Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Australian Government

Queensland Government

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GOLD COAST AT LARGE

with Portia Large

Hedley Thomas and Tania Meli at the Magic Millions VIP Marquee. Pictures: Portia Large

Patricia O'Callaghan and Rachel Hancock.

Ros Franklin, Billy Cross and Angie Bell at the Magic Millions VIP Marquee.

Kate Fallis, Mel McLaughlin and Emma Francis at the Magic Millions VIP Marquee.

Kate Lukashova and Vlad Lukashova at the Pacific Fair Magic Millions Fashions On The Fields at the Gold Coast Turf Club.

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Labor hit by cost of living

The Albanese government's midterm malaise looks to have taken hold as voters continue to shun its handling of the continued cost of living crunch, new polling shows.

Conducted by Sydney-based pollsters Freshwater Strategy, the new electoral survey shows Labor and the Coalition are neck and neck in the two party preferred stakes at 50 per cent each.

Since the 2022 election, Labor has shed two points while the Coalition has risen by five points, the polling finds.

In a sign of mounting frustration with the government's strategy, just over half of all voters surveyed believe the country is headed in the wrong direction.

Anthony Albanese

The poll indicated that even as 74 per cent of voters identified cost of living pressures as their most pressing issue, 80 per cent say the Albanese government has failed to address the issue.

Household budgets have come under increased strain since early 2022 as soaring inflation sends real incomes in reverse and the Reserve Bank's aggressive round of interest rate hikes strains borrower's ability to meet mortgage repayments.

But as the government doubles down on its green energy strategy, voters are overwhelmingly sceptical of its ability to deliver on its promise to cut household power bills by $275 a year in 2025, when compared with prices before the 2022 election.

The poll found 43 per cent of Labor supporters, 61 per cent of the Greens supporters, and 81 per cent of Coalition supporters didn't expect Energy Minister Chris Bowen to deliver on this commitment.

The scepticism comes despite the Bureau of Statistics reporting that the government's interventions to take the edge of higher power prices have helped keep household costs lower.

The PM can find some solace in the polling data, however, with Mr Albanese (47 per cent) maintaining a lead over Opposition Leader Peter Dutton (38 per cent) on the preferred prime minister measure.

Smoking out the crims

Government's $188m boost to stop illegal tobacco imports

Jack Quail

A major crackdown to stem the illicit tobacco trade will be launched by the Albanese government to target the smuggling and sale of illegally imported cigarettes,

On Sunday, Treasurer Jim Chalmers announced a $188.5m boost deliver a new compliance program over the next four years, to tackle all aspects of the illicit tobacco trade.

Led by the Australian Border Force (ABF), in partnership with Commonwealth, state and territory governments, the funding will assist with targeting and disrupting illicit tobacco in source and transit countries before it reaches Australia.

Consumers can illegally purchase illicit cigarettes for as little as $20 for a pack of 20 at some vape stores, while at legal outlets, a similar product would cost roughly $50.

Under the new funding, the ABF will also introduce technological improvements, including artificial intelligence, to enhance the detection and disruption of illicit tobacco.

By official estimates, the forgone revenue to government coffers of the illicit activity is in excess of $3bn a year.

In 2024, authorities seized 1.7bn illegally imported cigarettes and almost 900 tonnes of loose leaf or "chop chop" tobacco products.

Dr Chalmers said the crackdown was intended to deter the consumption and distribution of illegal tobacco, and send a clear message to traffickers that their trade was a "serious crime".

"Illegal tobacco is more than a problem for the budget, it's a health challenge and it's a challenge to our border security," Dr Chalmers said.

"This new model strengthens our existing efforts by working in partnership with the states and territories and building on the Albanese government's tobacco excise package."

ABF head Michael Outram said his agency was committed to a hard-line stance on the illicit tobacco trade.

"We know illicit tobacco trade is systematically tied to serious and organised criminal groups, and we will work hand-in-hand with domestic and international partners to disrupt their activities," he said.

Authorities have blamed the illicit trade of tobacco as the reason behind a spate of tobacco store fire bombings in recent months, as rival syndicates vie for greater control of the lucrative market, which is then used to fund other illegal activities.

Health Minister Mark Butler said limiting illicit tobacco products was key to reducing the number of smokers.

"We cannot stand by and allow another generation of people to be lured into addiction and suffer the enormous health, economic and social consequences," he said.

Deputy opposition leader David Littleproud welcomed the measure but implored the government to increase regulation at the point of sale.

Kathleen Murry, of Sandford, outside of Hobart, stands on her award-winning lawn, now known as the 'world's ugliest lawn'. Picture: Supplied

Tassie home to 'world's ugliest lawn'

Jessica Wang

The accolade for the World's Ugliest Lawn has been awarded to a Tasmanian resident in a bizarre Swedish competition.

Dirt-ridden, pockmarked and dry, Kathleen Murray's garden took out the top prize, winning her a second-hand brown T-shirt donated by the 2023 winner which reads: "Proud owner of The World's Ugliest Lawn".

The competition, which began as a regional challenge in Sweden's Gotland island, aims to highlight the importance of water conservation, and stands against wasting water on keeping lawns lush and green.

The Sandford area, south-east of Hobart, is regularly hit by drought and water supply issues as its geography makes it difficult for the country to store groundwater.

Speaking to the ABC, Ms Murray said her entry was helped by three wild bandicoots who've taken over her property, decimating the greenery.

"I call them my wildlife of mass destruction, my WMDs," she said.

"I used to think they'd invaded my lawn but then I realised they'd actually liberated me from ever having to mow it ever again."

Get 'fun parts' tested

Tinder and Grindr will be used as part of a fresh push to encourage Aussies to get their "fun parts" tested amid a concerning rise in sexually transmitted diseases.

Health Minister Mark Butler launched the Beforeplay campaign on Sunday in a bid to encourage young Aussies to take their sexual health seriously. "One in six Australians will get an STI (sexually transmitted infection) and the rates of infection are rising, particularly among young people aged 20 to 34," he said. He said the nine-week campaign would help reduce the stigma around testing and prevention.

It will be rolled out on social media, dating apps, around universities and in bars and clubs. It will encourage Aussies to wear protection and book a check-up.

Succession's Sarah Snook

Emmy hopes for Aussie stars

Angie Raphael

Aussie television stars Sarah Snook and Elizabeth Debicki will be hoping to add Emmy Awards to their recent Golden Globe wins for Succession and The Crown, respectively, but both are facing stiff competition.

Snook is nominated for outstanding lead actress in a drama series for her celebrated performance in the critically acclaimed drama Succession.

She is competing against New Zealand actor Melanie Lynskey (Yellowjackets), Bella Ramsey (The Last of Us), Elisabeth Moss (The Handmaid's Tale), Sharon Horgan (Bad Sisters) and Keri Russell (The Diplomat).

Debicki won a Golden Globe for a supporting role on television in The Crown where she played the late Princess Diana. Her Emmy nomination is also for supporting actress in a drama series.

The first-time nominee faces competition from The White Lotus actresses Jennifer Coolidge, Meghann Fahy, Sabrina Impacciatore, Aubrey Plaza and Simona Tabasco, as well as Rhea Seehorn (Better Call Saul) and J. Smith-Cameron (Succession).

The 75th annual Emmy Awards will take place on Tuesday Australian time.

Hamas 'targets' Europe

Mossad foils plot to attack Israeli embassy in Sweden

TEL AVIV: A Hamas terror plot targeting Israel's embassy in Sweden and Jewish sites in Europe has been thwarted by Israeli intelligence agencies Mossad and Shin Bet, according to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The network, allegedly orchestrated by Hamas commanders in Lebanon, had plans for more attacks in Europe, involving the acquisition of drones and collaboration with European criminal organisations, Israel said.

:"Israel had discovered details on theatres of operation, terror targets, and on those involved in carrying out attacks

Benjamin Netanyahu

— from Hamas commanders in Lebanon to the last of the attackers in the operational infrastructure," Mr Netanyahu's office said in a statement.

This revelation follows a series of uncovered plots in Europe in recent weeks.

In December, European authorities arrested Hamas cells in Denmark, Germany, and Holland, suspecting their involvement in plotting attacks on Jewish targets.

Danish police found seven individuals linked to a foiled terror attack in December had Hamas connections, confirming Mr Netanyahu's assertion about Hamas expanding its operations into Europe.

"The alleged connection to Hamas confirms that the threat against Denmark is serious, but luckily we have a strong police and intelligence service doing their best to protect us every day," Danish Justice Minister Peter Hummelgaard said.

Meanwhile, Mr Netanyahu doubled down on his vows to defeat Hamas, as the UN marked the 100th day of the war, saying it was "staining humanity".

"The massive death, destruction, displacement, hunger, loss and grief of the last 100 days are staining our shared humanity," the head of the UN agency for Palestinian refugees, Philippe Lazzarini, said in the Gaza Strip.

And the International Court of Justice in The Hague last week heard arguments in a case launched by South Africa accusing Israel of breaching the UN Genocide Convention.

But Mr Netanyahu insisted no court or military foe could stop Israel from destroying Hamas.

"No one will stop us – not The Hague, not the Axis of Evil and no one else," he said.

"It is possible and necessary to continue until victory, and we will do it," he said, claiming most Hamas battalions in Gaza had been "eliminated".

Health officials in Gaza said recent Israeli strikes killed at least 60 people, while Israel said it struck dozens of rocket launchers that were "ready to be used" in central Gaza.

US sends 'message' to Iran on Houthis

SANAA: The US launched fresh strikes against Houthi rebels in Yemen as President Joe Biden said he had delivered a "private message" to Iran about its links to the group.

The strikes came a day after US and British forces hit scores of targets in Yemen, heightening fears that Israel's war with Palestinian Hamas militants could engulf the region.

The Houthis, who say they are acting in solidarity with Gaza, have carried out missile and drone attacks on what they deem Israeli-linked shipping on the key Red Sea trade route.

Joe Biden

Iran is suspected of supplying the Houthis with weapons and intelligence, but Tehran denies involvement. Nevertheless, Mr Biden said his government had given Iran a message.

"We delivered it privately and we're confident we're well-prepared," he said.

US Central Command said its forces attacked a Houthi radar site early on Saturday as "a follow-on action" related to the previous day's strikes.

A Houthi-allied military source said a site on the outskirts of the Red Sea port city of Hodeida which the rebels used to launch a rocket was hit.

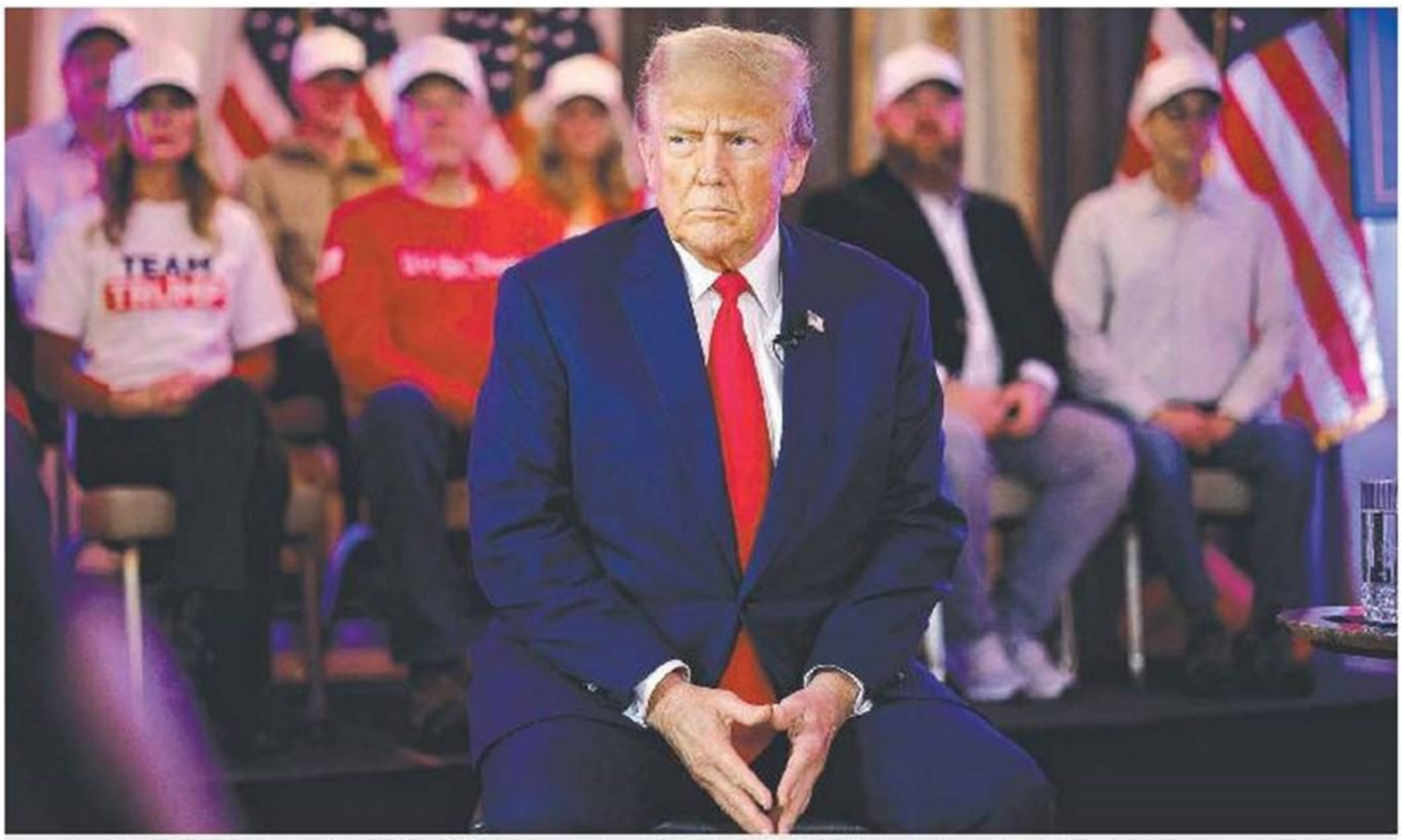
The Houthis' official media earlier said Al-Dailami airbase in Yemen's rebel-held capital Sanaa had been struck in the latest bombardment.

Rebel forces in north Sanaa had shut the area around the airbase and only residents with permits from neighbourhood chiefs were allowed to enter.

UN special envoy for Yemen Hans Grundberg urged "all involved" to avoid actions that would endanger maritime trade and "fuel regional tensions at this critical time".

Mr Grundberg noted "with serious concern" the impact of the "increasingly precarious regional context" on Yemen and called for diplomacy to be prioritised.

Britain, the United States and eight allies - including Australia - said strikes on Friday aimed to "de-escalate tensions", but the Huthis vowed to continue their attacks.



Sub-zero temperatures and blizzards forced Donald Trump into an indoor 'telerally' in Des Moines as the Iowa caucuses kick off the US election year. Picture: Getty

Election heats up in frigid Iowa caucuses

DES MOINES: Voters will venture into sub-zero temperatures on Monday to kick off the Republican presidential nomination race with the Iowa caucuses, the first major test of whether runaway front-runner Donald Trump is as much of a sure thing as he appears.

With a commanding lead in polls, the ex-president is expected easily to win the Midwestern state's first-in-the-nation vote as he bids to be the Republican standard-bearer against President Joe Biden in November.

But Iowans may have to contend with the coldest conditions in the modern era of presidential election campaigns, with blizzards and a potential wind chill of minus 32 degrees.

Trump and his leading rivals, Nikki Haley and Ron DeSantis, were forced to cancel appearances because of the weather as the threat to the turnout added intrigue to the campaign.

Despite his poll strength, Trump's multiple legal cases still hang over him.

"If DeSantis's massive ground effort, coupled with a recent Haley surge, can drag Trump under 50 percent by several points, that will be the first meaningful sign that Trump can be defeated," said political analyst Alex Avetoom.

Buried alive in landslide

BOGOTA: At least 33 people have been killed in landslides in Colombia, including many who had taken shelter in a house after the road they were travelling on was cut off.

"I deeply regret the death of 33 people in this tragedy, mostly children, according to preliminary reports," vice president Francia Marquez wrote on social media.

Firefighters, soldiers and local residents slogged through deep mud and debris in hopes of finding survivors, while relatives stood nearby.

Many travellers had left their cars to take shelter in a house near the municipality of Carmen de Atrato.

"But unfortunately, a landslide came and buried them," said a local official.

Images on social media showed part of a mountain breaking loose and crashing down onto a line of cars.

Soldiers patrol Ecuador's streets

Hostages freed as chaos reigns

QUITO: More than 40 Ecuador prison officials taken hostage by inmates have been freed, as the country grapples with a brutal campaign of gang terror.

The 24 guards and 17 administrative employees had been released, the SNAI prisons agency said, while 133 guards and three employees continue to be held hostage.

The workers were taken captive after President Daniel Noboa last week launched a military takedown of criminal groups, sparking a deadly confrontation with narco gangs.

The crisis was triggered by the escape from Guayaquil prison of one of the country's most powerful narco bosses, Jose Adolfo Macias, followed by prison riots, hostage-taking and attacks on police.

At least 19 people have died in the violence, including a guard killed on Saturday in clashes with inmates in El Oro near the border with Peru.

According to the latest official report, 859 suspects have been arrested, 25 escaped detainees have been recaptured, five "terrorists" shot dead and 57 kidnapped people have been released.

A chilling video filmed in Machala prison shows the corpse of a prisoner wrapped in plastic thrown into the street from inside the jail.

Opinion OURS & YOURS

Gold Coast Bulletin

EDITORIAL

Shot in arm

Today's tourism funding announcement is a welcome and much-needed step

The Gold Coast tourism sector has endured a difficult five years.

The last time we enjoyed a summer unencumbered by disaster, natural or otherwise, was 2018-19.

In the half-decade since then, it's been one write-off after another, including bushfires (2019-20), Covid (2020-21, 2021-22), a devastating helicopter crash (2022-23) and now the Christmas night storm.

The deadly event killed a Helensvale woman, left thousands of homes without power and hundreds badly damaged, causing a repair bill expected to be in the billions.

The city's theme parks, Sea World aside, were forced to close with Top Golf still shut indefinitely after the devastating damage to its infrastructure.

But perhaps worse than the physical damage endured by our tourism operators as a result of the storm and its aftermath is a crisis of confidence and hesitancy from tourists.

Not those who have already come to the Coast but those who either booked in advance or perhaps were considering travelling here in January, only to become wary as a result of the storms and poor weather.

While perhaps understandable, it is bad news for the tens of thousands of families who rely upon tourism for their income.

The state government's move to address this is not only welcome but a critically important intervention.

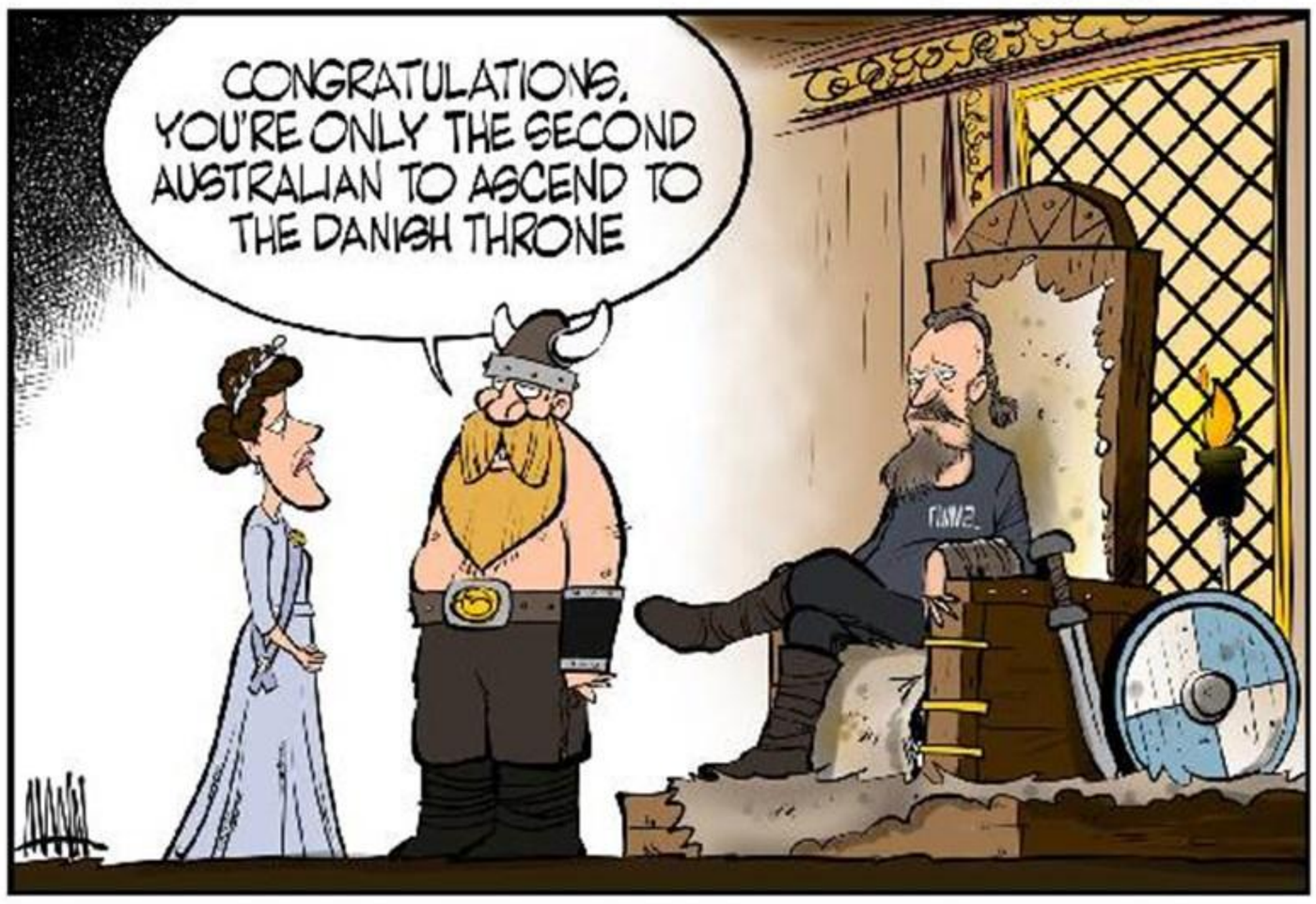
Teaming up with Experience Gold Coast and Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ), the GC Summer FUNds initiative will inject $2.5m into the economy, and will allow both tourists and locals to be given access to more than 50,000 vouchers to use on experiences including theme parks.

EGC CEO John Warn summed up succinctly why the industry needed support.

"Our industry demonstrates its resilience time and again but during this peak tourism season it needs our support more than ever as many operators begin the task of rebuilding," he said.

It has been a tough half-decade for the Gold Coast tourism sector and let's hope this funding will help our operators claw back to where they should have been.

WRITE TO US: Make sure to include your name, address and phone number if verification is required. Only your name and suburb will be printed. Please note we reserve the right to edit letters for reasons such as clarity and length. PRIVACY POLICY: Our privacy policy at https://preferences.news.com.au/privacy includes important information about our collection, use and disclosure of your personal information (including to provide you with targeted advertising based on your online activities). It explains that if you do not provide us with information we have requested from you, we may not be able to provide you with the goods and services you require. It also explains how you can access or seek correction of your personal information, how you can complain about a breach of the Australian Privacy Principles and how we will deal with a complaint of that nature.



Letters

Local councillors, Gold Coast City Council staff, SES, Energex, local traders, selfless friends, neighbours and on-ground work firms have been admirable in the wake of the "tornado" damage.

Questions have arisen after the cyclonic conditions and subsequent flooding. One is preparedness and emergency planning for the sixth largest city in the country.

An upgraded Emergency Coordination Centre has been established but intense settlement, mostly situated on coastal lowlands, in pathway of five short-run, flood prone rivers, needs increased focus on whole-of-city response

In the past the Gold Coast has dodged some bullets, and in this 165km/h winds cyclonic singular emergency, many suburbs were not impacted.

In the past there was a call for minimal development on flood plains and adjacent to lower reaches of rivers. This must certainly still be a sustainable town planning goal for proposals in the north of the city.

However, settlement to the south has long ago expanded beyond the mitigating factor of the raising of the Hinze Dam wall. While in the north, flood impact has been documented since the 1800s. Fresh leadership in terms of addressing settlement, safe refuge and evacuation, must be an urgent focus. There is a concern re the singular or limited representation, particularly in the media, on council issues. This lessens impact of wider voices of 15 employed councillors being heard regarding city policy.

It's time for change and a fresh look at extremely critical issues.

S. Spain, Oxenford

I have a great idea for us all to warn the woke brigade of our stores, councils and those in general who oppose the celebration of our National Day on January 26.

First of all, I intend to cease shopping at Woolworths and go to Coles all the time instead.

Secondly, this year, I shall deliberately buy any Australian item Coles is selling that celebrates Australia Day. Yes, I hope they sellout these goods, even though many of us celebrate Australia Day by just remembering how lucky we are to live in what, until now, has been a democracy for the world to envy.

The debacle of The Voice vote should surely have reminded those feeling we need to be re-educated about our history, denigrating our achievements, and supporting anything that casts half-truths over our existence as Australians, should have taught all that Australians are not to be treated like idiots.

The government that restores the dignity and joy we used to have, celebrating Australia Day has my vote, and hopefully, everyone else's.

Carol Pearce, Surfers Paradise

Text the Editor

Only text messages of no more than 80 words will be considered

Polls show we don't trust Albo! Costs of living nails are hammered in his coffin! Would Albo really know the cost of bread , milk and fuel? NO because he doesn't have to purchase these things! Hopefully someone has informed him that ice creams have gone up too! KB Tweed

It has become clear that Albo needs to realise the honeymoon is over and swanning around the world with his partner is not cutting it. He is out of touch with his own countries needs. He can't get anything done because he can't commit to anything after tanking with his referendum. He is showing he is not a leader. GN

Give us a break. The state and federal governments have given generously in response to the recent natural disasters as both always do in such cases. They didn't do it to answer a call from Tom Tate and the PM doesn't need to be held to account by the mayor as he suggests in Saturday Soapbox.

One of the reasons the average Aussie is going to struggle to buy a home is because we have been allowed to turn our main asset into a business. Buying and selling a home for a tax free profit within a short time is driving prices up. Maybe we should have to hold the property for say five years before it became tax free on selling or there are going to be a lot of lifetime renters. Dehog.

By crikey, sure hope young home-leavers have learnt how to shop & cook for themselves by now, cos I'm still ridding house of excess packaging of previous easy "order-in" meals! Hmph

Many Australians must look on at the Trump lunacy griping the US and wonder how could people be so stupid. Look closer to home at the antics of the dud, Dutton with his populist fear based stupidity & then look at the silence of the majority of Libs as they look on. ajs

Delusional woke councils and commercial entities are unconsciously supporting AUSTRALIA DAY by paying for their workers to have a day off work to do whatever their unwoke consciences dictate, like an AUSSIE DAY BBQ or picnic or party. So you bloody woke unAustralian mongrels, get that upya. Proud Aussie.

Australia Day! You know what? If it ain't broke..don't fix it. COOLY KEV.

Sorry Mg, Woolworth is a ASX listed company, it's a publicly listed company. There is a company called Woolworth that is owned by a South African company but it's not the Supermarket. Rosi S.

Every Retaliation to this Religiously inspired Aggression will just up the Ante until the world explodes in unmitigated Violence. RAMBO

6 K.N.O.T.S. You W_ers.___

OH MY BLOODY GOSH! Apparently we suffered hahaha climate change hahaha back in the pre industrial revolution days in 1896 with 13 consecutive days over 45c (still a record despite industry

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What do Europeans know about trusty Aussie ute?

Vikki Campion

I tried to buy a ute yesterday. Not just any ute, but a ute that meets the new European standards Climate Change Minister Chris Bowen snuck in three days before Christmas.

We are told how fabulous they are on paper, so I was keen to actually give one a run around the farm.

The sales girl ran through her nationwide database and said: "I am really sorry, but currently, I am unable to suggest any models that qualify for Euro 6D standards."

So I went down to my local regional car dealership and asked them if any of them had even seen one of these wonderful utes that we are told meet Euro 6D standards at any road shows or events, and not one of them had.

"Don't sweat it," the dealer told me. "We will all be driving EVs."

And then he laughed and laughed at his own joke.

We don't have a single ute that qualifies for Euro 6D on the Australian market right now – and phasing in over next year, that's all we will eventually be allowed to buy brand new.

Rather than letting the market have a look at these new utes before the new regulations are enforced, they are telling us to buy a vehicle that nobody has even been able to take for a test drive.

Just have a look at the specs.

The Euro 6D standard equivalent of one of Australia's best-selling vehicles, the Toyota HiLux, that is sold in the UK has a 2.4-litre engine. That's about half the capacity of the Toyota LandCruiser we use to spray weeds on the farm at the moment.

That engine is just dandy on a sealed road in the middle of the city but will it be enough when you have weight on the back and need to go up a rough track uphill?

We will be forced into far less powerful vehicles thanks to Bowen and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese, who between the two of them wouldn't know how to change a spark plug.

For farmers, plumbers, builders, couriers and delivery people, the work vehicle is an appendage of the body. If you can't move it, lift it, carry it, or pull it out, the ute will – or once would. After 2025, buying a new ute that can carry tools and half a tonne of concrete up a hill will start to become a distant memory.

While Albanese's ministry has begun each day this week earnestly talking about the soaring cost of living, a few days before Christmas they dropped in the sneaky regulation to ostensibly save the planet that will make vehicles, fuel and services even more expensive.

Consultation with motorists ran for less than one month in the lead-up to Christmas 2022.

Then, under the cover of Christmas in 2023, it changed the reg to eventually ban the sale of new cars that do not meet specific European 6D standards – all as part of this inane fascination with trying to imitate Europe.

The average size of a farm in Europe is less than 50 acres. Even small farms in Australia are 10 times that size. The average farm in Australia is more than 200 times that size, and the average Australian cropping farm is more than 300 times a European one.

We are nothing like Europe. Not only are our farms vastly bigger, but our terrain is harder to traverse. An electric vehicle that can hurtle around the undulating 50 acres of a European dairy farm will quickly lose its spark running up the steep rocky mountains of Weabonga carrying 500 litres of weed spray.

The trusty Toyota HiLux.

A plumber who starts a day fixing a leak and then needs to cart out half a tonne of asphalt isn't going to get very far without grunt.

Anything that makes their work tools less effective will make your bill to fix the pipe more expensive – or will make them poorer.

In announcing the changes, Mr Bowen claimed European standards would cut 18 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions.

The federal government ignored the pleas of manufacturers, who argued that newer vehicle technology is incompatible with Australia's current fuel.

Even right-hand drive manufacturers such as Toyota argued the "regulatory system introduced needs to take into consideration the unique conditions of the Australian market, and therefore it is not appropriate to apply the same parameters as used in overseas markets". Such as Europe.

Keep in mind that Australia is 1 per cent of the global car market.

How many manufacturers will make specific right-hand drive utility trucks for us that meet European standards?

ON THIS *day*

69 Roman Emperor Servius Sulpicius Galba, who succeeded Nero in 68AD, is assassinated by the Praetorian Guard in the Roman Forum.

1559 Elizabeth I is crowned Queen of England.

1790 Mutineers aboard the ship HMS Bounty and their Tahitian partners arrive at Pitcairn Island, where they hope to establish a colony.

1797 James Hetherington, a London haberdasher, is fined for wearing his newest creation, the top hat.

1834 A mutiny on Norfolk Island by 162 convicts, is put down by the captain of the guard, Foster Fyans. Two convicts are killed, seven are fatally injured and another 13 will hang.

1894 Australia's first steel rolling mill opens at the Eskbank Ironworks, near Lithgow.

1922 The Irish Free State is established under Michael Collins.

1943 The Pentagon is completed in Washington.

1967 The Rolling Stones appear on The Ed Sullivan Show on US TV network CBS. CBS critics don't like words to the song, Let's Spend the Night Together, so order the group to change the words to Let's Spend Some Time Together.

2001 Wikipedia, a free internet-based encyclopaedia that operates under an open-source management style, debuts. It was founded by Jimmy Wales and Larry Sanger.

2008 Sea Shepherd activists Giles Lane and Benjamin Potts are detained on Japanese whaling vessel Yashin Maru No 2 after jumping aboard in protest against whaling in the Southern Ocean.

2009 US Airways flight 1549, piloted by Captain Chesley ("Sully") Sullenberger III, lands in the Hudson River (above) after the plane flew into a flock of Canada geese shortly after takeoff, resulting in severe damage to the plane's engines. There were no fatalities.

Send your messages to the editor to 0416 905 148

improving its output since). Climate change better improve or insanely over zealous cc activists better downgrade their (hahaha) scientifically proven doomsday predictions. Hahahahaha bloody laughable.

Re Ken Wade critic Saturday 13th, criticism is wrong it is "sarcasm is the lowest form of wit", I for one don't take a cartoonists take on the issues of the day that seriously, cartoonists should remain humorous commentators, no need for woke, politically correct and drab depictions, we have enough of that from our pollies! Keep it up Mann. Barry C

No name re bagging KW you are wrong again, sarcasm is the lowest form of wit-Ozman

Four unleashed dogs on beach Bilinga to Tugun @ 9.30am. Total fines greater than a ranger earns in two days. Yap

Tommy good idea mate about crushing cars. But what a waste of money (seems to be a council thing, wasting money.) You should consider selling them and give money to car crash victims. What do you reckon Tom. Old Reggie VL 4227

Just got stung with extra surchage when using my debit card! What the hell is happening to society? No one wants ti accept cash and then they hit you with surcharge when you are forced to use your card! Please add your voice to this ridiculous charges.

Never thought about the $$$$$ bail out for these youth offenders. Be interesting to know if & how much money is raised. I bet NOTHING! Broadbeach oldie.

Re BERT GCB 13 Jan. You are getting mixed up with the US bail system. In Australia alleged criminals are rarely required to lodged a surety on money to ensure they get bail and their compliance with the bail conditions such as not committing more of fences which seems to be the norm for many of those bailed in Australia. Certainly bail laws need an overhaul because they are failing. KJ.

Enough with the Hail Mary. We went through the same thing with the King and other.

Isn't the fear of GOING to the dentist that scares folk, tis walking out AFTER paying BIG $$$$, to find an utterly crap job was done!!!! Hmph!

Heat's last game and first loss, a pathetic show of stupid batting. Why must they try to hit sixes off every ball. 90% get out Doing that. J D

STARS

OSCAR CAINER
For free forecasts go to ozfree.cainer.com

With Mercury (ideas) now moving through Capricorn, it's an opportunity to find solutions to recently identified problems. And in our media driven world, it's worth remembering that the best answers aren't always found by an online search. As the tech industry showcases its latest developments at the start of the CES trade show, expect to see innovative advances in the world of AI and automatons. But nothing beats human heart-to-heart communication. And that's what the cosmos encourages today.

ARIES MAR 21–APR 20
No matter which direction you turn, or how much you achieve, you're facing more and more demands on your time. It's hard to keep track of the promises and commitments you need to honour (let alone find the energy to invest in looking after your own life and relationships). How are you meant to know what to prioritise when you've got wrongs to right and people's needs to look after? Today brings a chance to simplify things. Something can be dropped from your to-do list.

LEO JUL 24–AUG 23
When we're caught up in a confusing situation it's hard to envisage the ideal way to resolve it. But are you so embroiled in a need to avoid a particular issue (or relationship) that you'll settle for anything that seems better than it is right now? Yes, there are times when we have to shrug our shoulders, and deal with whatever life brings our way. But the current cosmic climate is offering you options. Don't lose sight of your standards today. Despite the uncertainty you're experiencing, you're close to attaining a goal.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23–DEC 21
It doesn't matter how convincingly someone explains something, we only hear what we want to hear and believe what we want to believe. And even if something is staring us in the face, we only see what we want to see. And since we tend to be much better at talking than listening, it's no wonder there's so much misunderstanding and miscommunication. Which means we learn to expect disharmony, even when we share common ground. Don't distrust the opportunity coming your way.

TAURUS APR 21–MAY 21
Although a positive attitude can get you a long way, even the most optimistic person in the world is going to find some things impossible. With the best will in the world, in some situations, certain goals are simply unattainable. I'm not mentioning this to dishearten you. Quite the opposite. It's just that past disappointments might tempt you to underestimate the possibility now being presented to you. You really can be confident today.

VIRGO AUG 24–SEP 23
Everything about life seems circular. The Moon circles around our planet. Our planet circles around the Sun. And the Sun rotates around its axis. And our minds seem to follow this same pattern. The cogs keep turning, and activating more cogs, which keep spinning. Your mind has been in a whirl recently. With so much going on, it's no wonder you're feeling a bit dizzy. Today, with your ruler, Mercury, settling into Capricorn, something starts making sense. You'll find once that happens, you'll regain a sense of balance.

CAPRICORN DEC 22–JAN 20
If we scratch beneath any surface, we find something waiting to be uncovered. Even a simple, random remark can be hiding emotions. If you're going to make the decision you need to make right now, there are certain issues to be taken into consideration. Otherwise, you might let your expectations inform your judgement and jump to the wrong conclusion. With Mercury (intellect) in your sign, you can carefully weigh up all the factors and come to a decision that has a powerfully positive effect on your future.

GEMINI MAY 22–JUN 22
We're going to test your mindreading skills. If you take a moment to close your eyes and relax, can you tell what the rest of your prediction is going to say? Of course you can't! There's no way you can know unless you read it! In fact, your forecast is going to tell you that you need to open your eyes and take a good look at an issue you'd prefer to ignore. Your ruler, Mercury, in earthy Capricorn, brings the courage and the clarity to see the path you need to follow to bring success your way.

LIBRA SEP 24–OCT 23
Although you can see a logical way to get to where you want to go, it doesn't look very enticing. Either it's going to be more expensive than you can afford. Or it involves crossing a particularly challenging terrain. You're hesitating, in the hope of discovering an alternative route. Yet, in your heart of hearts, you know it's going to be impossible to find one. So, your best option is to seek assistance. There are people around who can help smooth the way ahead. Explaining your needs takes courage.

AQUARIUS JAN 21–FEB 19
Think back to when you were at school. Every new term brought harder lessons to learn. Even though those days might be long over, we're all still students at the school of life; and a new year brings a different set of challenges. It doesn't seem to get any easier. As soon as we've got to grips with something, something else pops up. And if we don't learn the lesson, it re-presents itself, in a different format, until we do. With Mercury in a new sector of the sky, you've got the ability to look at an old problem and deal with it.

CANCER JUN 23–JUL 23
I was recently watching a documentary about parrots. Their ability to imitate made me think about how humans share that skill. We copy words, people and ideas. Sometimes, when we try out different ways of being, or different viewpoints, we sound as if we don't know what's going on. Then, we learn from other folk's reactions, and adapt. Mimicry is part of our developmental process. Yet there are times when we appear to be communicating, but the words and actions are devoid of real meaning.

SCORPIO OCT 24–NOV 22
Imagine how you'd respond if everything started falling apart? Or how you'd manage if life only presented you with challenges, awkward people and impossible scenarios? If you want to picture a never-ending litany of worst-case scenarios, no-one's going to stop you. But I'm hoping you see how preposterous that notion is. Life on planet Earth might be crazy and unpredictable. But don't let your imagination take you down that unhelpful path. Instead, focus on how you can cope with an improvement.

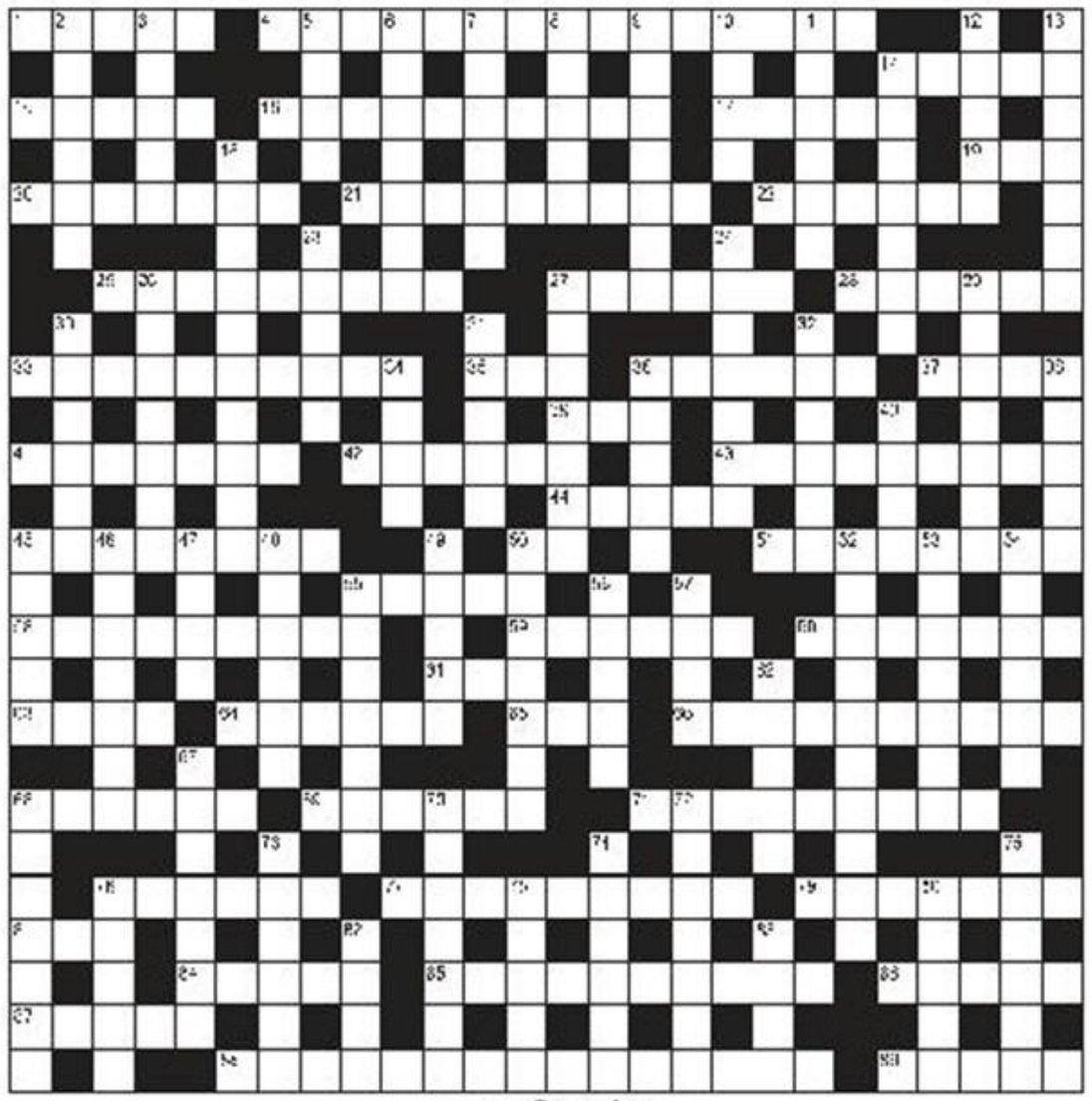
PISCES FEB 20–MAR 20
As a chess-lover, I'm delighted by the resurgence in its popularity. With all the apps and online games, it's become accessible to anyone who likes pushing their strategic thinking to new levels. Yet satisfying though this kind of gameplay can be, it's only useful in certain scenarios. You're dealing with a situation that suits your emotional intelligence. And with Mercury (intellect) now in earthy Capricorn, your sensitivity, kindness and generosity are more effective than ever.

JUMBO CROSSWORD

15/1

ACROSS
1 Humid (5)
4 Scarce (4,2,3,6)
14 Bumpy (5)
15 Wish-granter (5)
16 Luminosity (10)
17 Become one (5)
19 Mongrel (3)
20 Protracted (7)
21 Nerve-racking (9)
22 Fireplace (6)
25 Offender (9)
27 Unvarying (6)
28 Supporting structure on rocket launch pad (6)
33 Lies (10)
35 Garden tool (3)
36 Lyrical (6)
37 Exude (4)
39 Automobile (3)
41 Enthusiasm-arousing address (3-4)
42 Acid neutraliser (6)
43 Road speed (anag) (9)
44 A region's plant life (5)
45 Cut (8)
50 Next to (2)
51 Shirt, tie (anag) (8)
55 Deep ravine (5)
58 Refuge (9)
59 Wits (6)
60 Plots (7)
61 Indicate assent (3)
63 Decisive defeat (4)
64 Wine serving bottle (6)
65 Public house (3)
66 Capital of Denmark (10)
68 Slows the progress of (6)
69 Dating regularly (6)
71 Irritable, hot-tempered (9)
76 Writer (6)
77 Predators (anag) (9)
79 Extremely old (7)
81 Rascal (3)
84 More pleasant (5)
85 Used to (10)
86 Thrill (5)
87 Mimicking (5)
88 Escape completely unpunished (3,4,4-4)
89 Actions (5)

DOWN
2 Patchy (6)
3 Exiting (5)
5 Toss (4)
6 Sleeping garment (7)
7 Spice (6)
8 Takes notice of (5)
9 Make hand signs (7)
10 Musical work (4)
11 Sounds (6)
12 Cluster (5)
13 Curative treatment (7)
14 Strategic withdrawal (7)
18 Rodent bred for fur (10)
23 Nincompoop (6)
24 Supplementary material at the end of a book (7)
26 Supporter's ribboned badge (7)
27 Define clearly (7)
29 Kettledrums (7)
30 Film holder (6)
31 Small medicine bottle (5)
32 Tawdry art (6)
34 Glossy fabric (4)
36 Evidence (5)
38 Utensils (5)
40 Prophet (4)
45 Intense beam generator (5)
46 Use up (7)
47 Assess (4)
48 Drink sachet (3,3)
49 Lying face downwards (5)
50 Sleeping material (7)
52 Firebomb (10)
53 Growth on foot (7)
54 Lace hole (6)
55 Went in a circle (7)
56 Signs up (5)
57 Heroic verse (4)
62 Sudden cramp (5)
67 Gliding on ice (7)
68 Sneering, derisive (7)
70 Art of Japanese flower arrangement (7)
72 Expression of criticism and censure (7)
73 Fencer's shout (6)
74 Painting done on wet plaster (6)
75 Aslant (6)
76 Month (5)
78 Sways (5)
80 Bisect (5)
82 Opera solo (4)
83 Festival (4)



WORDFILL Fit the words into the grid to create a finished crossword

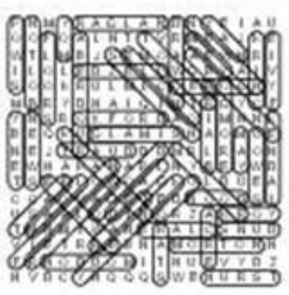
3 LETTERS
ART
AVE
CUR
DEN
EGO
ERA
EVE
FOR
GEN
KEY
NOB
OAR
ODE
PAR
PEG
WAG
YAP
YES

4 LETTERS
ABET
ABUT
AVER
AWAY
BOSS
CARE
DATE
ELSE
FETE
FRET
FURY
GREY
ICED
IDEA
IDOL
LAGS
LENS
MIME
MONK
NUTS
OGLE
OKAY
ONLY
OWES
OWLS
PAPA
PERU
PURE
ROOF
STUD
TAPS
TSAR
UNDO
WEST

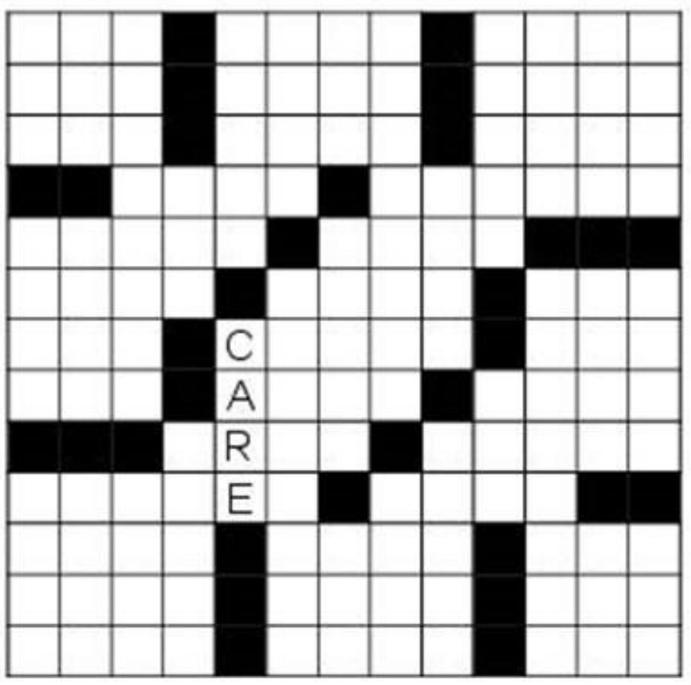
5 LETTERS
CANOE
FLAKE
POLAR
RULER
SALES
SUDSY
TAPIR
TENET

6 LETTERS
EDITED
MILLER

8 LETTERS
ASSESSOR
NEWLYWED
STROLLER
WAVERING



Saturday's WordFind

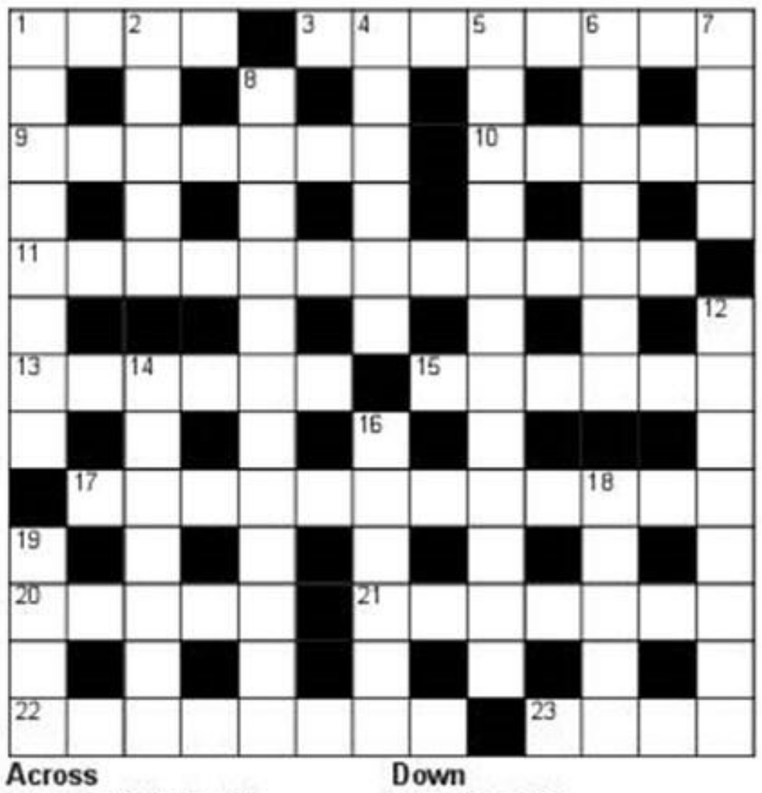


Saturday

ACROSS: 1. Indigo, 4. Residence, 9. Mass, 11. Pea, 12. Ago, 13. Past, 15. Brunt, 16. Sac, 17. Oath, 19. Pour, 21. Hard, 23. Vie, 24. Tariff, 26. Edge, 27. Hod, 28. Far, 30. Some, 31. Reign, 32. Vinyl, 34. Vying, 35. Shed, 36. Were, 38. Idle, 39. Undo, 40. Hassle, 44. Nun, 45. Keenly, 46. Lots, 48. Tote, 50. Sparse, 51. Mac, 53. Retort, 57. Gala, 58. Aura, 59. Fact, 61. Thru, 63. Carat, 65. Gooey, 67. Amble, 68. Epic, 69. For, 70. Axe, 71. Lour, 72. Bronco, 75. Rot, 76. Reel, 79. Iris, 81. Onyx, 82. Ova, 83. Muted, 84. Stab, 85. Its, 86. Lei, 87. Gift, 88. Swordplay, 89. Cheque.

DOWN: 1. Impoverish, 2. Into, 3. Opera, 4. Rabbi, 5. Squiffy, 6. Dither, 7. Nosegay, 8. Each, 9. Moor, 10. Schedule, 14. Specious, 18. Adhere, 20. Utensil, 22. Agog, 25. Rave, 29. Alien, 30. Snooker, 33. Idiot, 34. Vaunt, 36. Wrest, 37. Ruler, 41. Alpha, 42. Strut, 43. Elegiac, 47. Smart, 49. Orate, 52. Cargo, 54. Equator, 55. Outburst, 56. Times table, 59. For a song, 60. Cheery, 62. Hymn, 63. Cite, 64. Avocado, 66. Orbital, 69. Framed, 73. Oddly, 74. Civic, 77. Exit, 78. Loss, 80. Isle.

13x13 QUICK



Across
1. Type of window (4)
3. Tenses up (8)
9. Carry out (3,4)
10. Repeatedly (5)
11. Secret (12)
13. Unsophisticated (6)
15. Golf club (6)
17. Polite (4-8)
20. Dagger (5)
21. Relating to the heart (7)
22. Cancelling out (8)
23. Pleads (4)

Down
1. Grabbed (8)
2. Smooth, glossy fabric (5)
4. Cared for (6)
5. Leading contenders (5-7)
6. Pull out (7)
7. Founder (4)
8. Most lively (12)
12. Foretells (8)
14. Staggering (7)
16. Bird of prey (6)
18. Elevate (5)
19. Pelt, hide (4)

Saturday
Across: 1. Loquacious 7. Image 8. Collude 10. Sweating 11. Clad 13. Captor 15. Rely on 17. Able 18. Readable 21. Stature 22. Trite 23. Decelerate.
Down: 1. Leave 2. Question 3. Ascend 4. Idle 5. Usually 6. First-class 9. Endangered 12. Vendetta 14. Pulsate 16. Recede 19. Bribe 20. Nude.

5x5

	I		T	
U		L		T
	L		N	
T		P		E
	T		A	

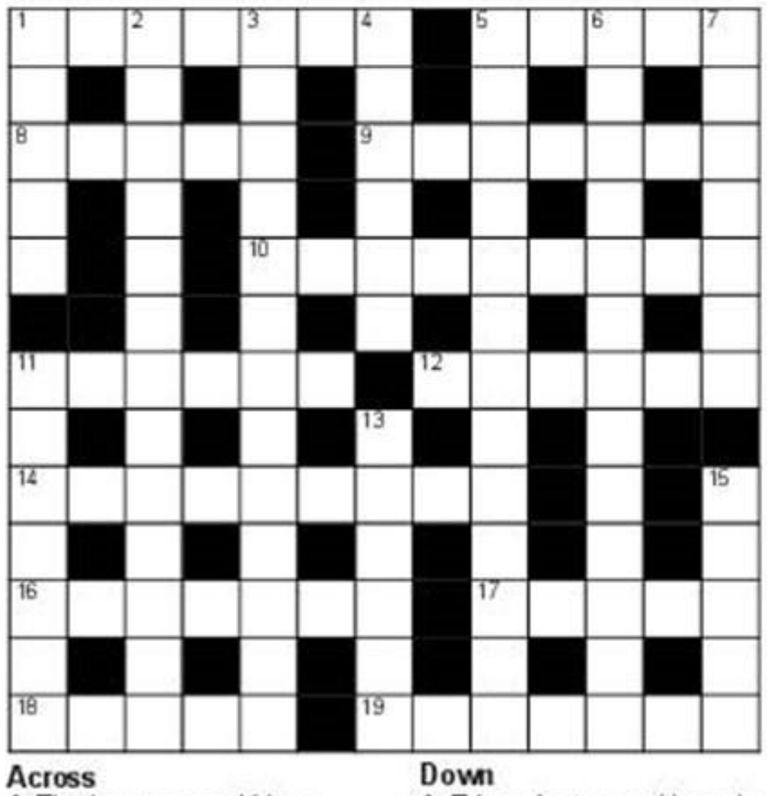
Insert the missing letters to make five words reading across and five reading down.

Note: more than one solution may be possible

Saturday

P	A	S	T	E
A	L	P	H	A
R	O	L	E	S
C	H	I	M	E
H	A	T	E	S

CRYPTIC



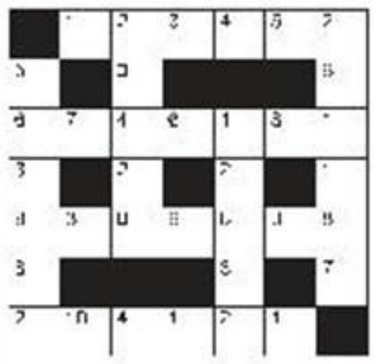
Across
1. The bouncer could be a donor, ma ... (7)
5. ... and an addict from Colorado, perhaps (5)
8. Chivalrous, Carlo departed the Hindu Festival (5)
9. Cleaned scorchingly quick? (7)
10. It is over the top when it comes to cricket and devastating (3,3,3)
11. A nagging way to mine for coal (4,2)
12. Returning with a cigarette iron, Bob made social blunders (6)
14. The printer ink replacer was a fly-by-nighter and party goer (3,6)
16. Sounds like the goats' coats were to be cut down (7)
17. The weird serve curves away (5)
18. Be nonchalant about a quiet time on the mat (5)
19. Ah, kilts, perhaps and something to top it off (4,3)

Down
1. Edward returns with sunburn culprit in spite of having cover (5)
2. Corey chatters about some bird (13)
3. Hot water in mug could be delicious (13)
4. Delicacy of character needed for pleasant town, we hear (6)
5. Got there but was late (4,2,7)
6. Could be several pages or just bits of the sentence (5,2,6)
7. Dancer gets 10 from France from two quarters which are base numbers (7)
11. Something to wear on retirement (7)
13. At a standstill, but you can remain little sibling so to speak (6)
15. Doesn't own pheasants without apes (5)

Saturday
Across: 2. Illustrator, 7. Water pistol, 9. Servile, 10. Repot, 11. George, 12. Ashore, 15. Diary, 17. Refresh, 19. In cold blood, 20. Fundamental.
Down: 1. Kiwis, 2. Interrogation, 3. Lurking, 4. Shires, 5. Rater, 6. Telephone poll, 8. Titre, 11. Giddy, 13. Safe bet, 14. Grille, 16. Yucca, 18. Hides.

CLUELESS CROSSWORD

15/1



Numbers have been substituted for letters. Use the letter(s) given to work out the rest of the puzzle.

2 = T

Saturday

WordWheel

Insert the missing letter to make an eight-letter word reading either clockwise or anticlockwise.

Saturday: TOMAHAWK

Vocabularian

Choose the correct definition

Benison
a) Blessing
b) Shared thoughts
c) Monks' prayer service

Cateran
a) Mountain stream
b) Steamship engineer
c) Brigand

Saturday
Coif: head covering
Amplitude: vastness

TARGET

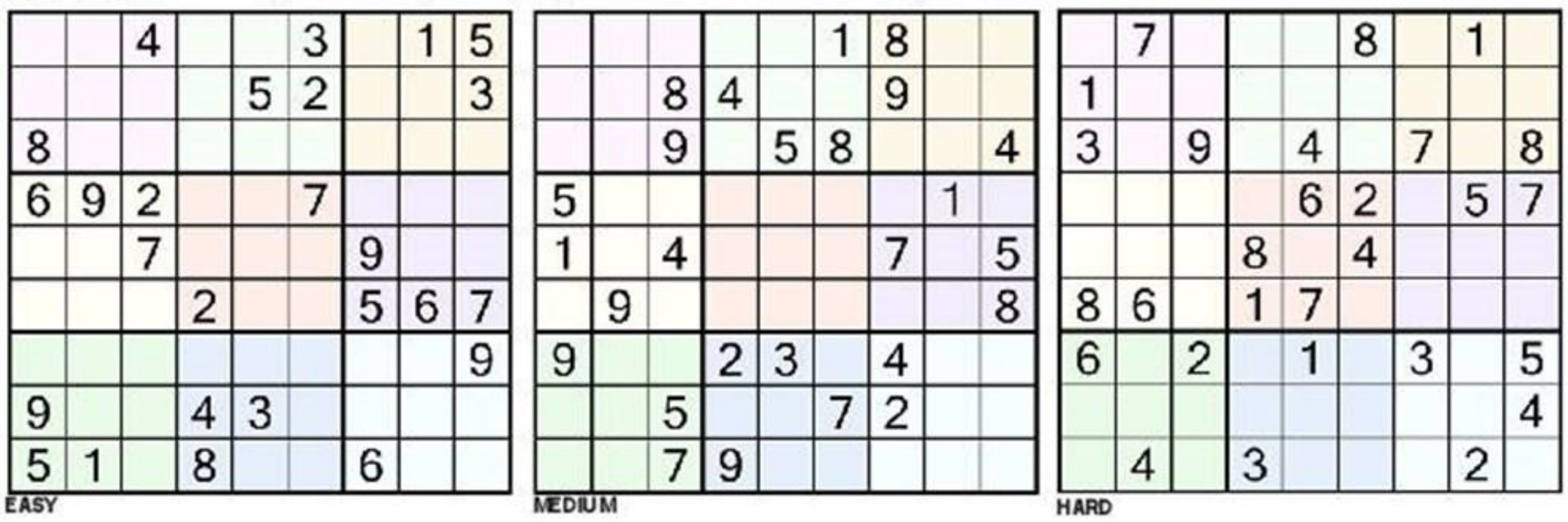
H	E	R
I	K	A
G	N	N

How many words of four letters or more can you make? Each letter must be used only once and all words must contain the centre letter. There is at least one nine-letter word.
No words starting with a capital are allowed, no plurals ending in s unless the word is also a verb, e.g. he burns with anger.
Good 10 Very Good 16 Excellent 24+

Saturday: adust anus aunt daunt daunts duet dune duns dust endue endues ensue ensued nausea nauseate NAUSEATED nude sauna saute sauteed stud stun sued suede suet sundae tuna tune tuned tunes unease unsated unseat unseated unset used

SUDOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and each 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.



EASY | MEDIUM | HARD

Saturday's sudoku solutions

9	6	7	4	3	5	8	1	2
3	5	2	6	8	1	4	9	7
1	4	8	7	9	2	6	5	3
8	9	5	3	6	4	2	7	1
6	7	3	2	1	9	5	4	8
2	1	4	8	5	7	3	6	9
7	2	9	5	4	8	1	3	6
5	8	6	1	7	3	9	2	4
4	3	1	9	2	6	7	8	5

EASY

9	1	4	6	2	5	3	8	7
3	6	2	7	8	9	5	1	4
8	5	7	4	1	3	9	2	6
1	4	5	8	9	6	2	7	3
2	9	6	3	4	7	1	5	8
7	3	8	1	5	2	6	4	9
6	8	3	2	7	1	4	9	5
5	7	1	9	6	4	8	3	2
4	2	9	5	3	8	7	6	1

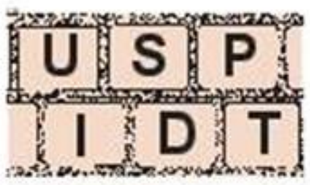
MEDIUM

6	3	4	8	5	7	1	9	2
9	5	8	2	6	1	4	7	3
2	1	7	9	4	3	5	8	6
4	9	3	6	7	5	8	2	1
8	6	5	3	1	2	9	4	7
7	2	1	4	9	8	3	6	5
5	4	2	7	3	9	6	1	8
1	8	6	5	2	4	7	3	9
3	7	9	1	8	6	2	5	4

HARD

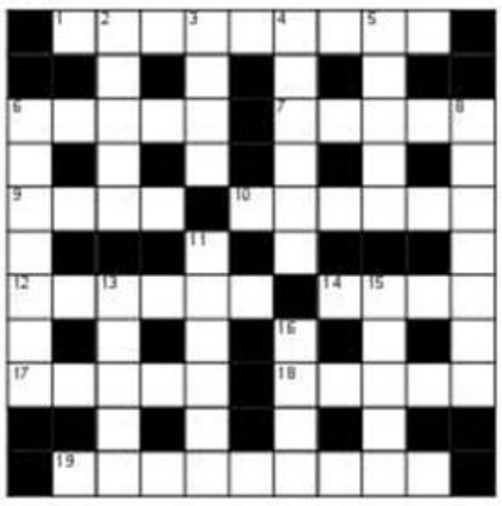
Saturday's WordBuilder solution
Fir, fit, fop, for, fort, frit, fro, oft, opt, pit, poi, port, pot, pro, prof, PROFIT, rift, riot, rip, rot, tip, tiro, top, topi, tor, tori, trio, trip.

WORDBUILDER



How many words of three or more letters, including plurals, can you make from the six letters, using each only once?
No words beginning with a capital are allowed. There's at least one six-letter word.
Good 15 Very Good 19 Excellent 23

11x11 QUICK



Across
1. Abundant wealth (9)
6. Holding device (5)
7. Toss (5)
9. Overdue (4)
10. A litre (anag) (6)
12. Antiseptic tincture (6)
14. Throbbing pain (4)
17. African country (5)
18. Agent, representative (5)
19. Dry out (9)

Down
2. Banquet (5)
3. Track circuits (4)
4. Paris tower (6)
5. Porcelain (5)
6. Telephoning (7)
8. Golf tournament spectators (7)
11. Anxious (6)
13. Male duck (5)
15. Flat-headed nail (5)
16. Nautical pole (4)

Saturday's 11x11 quick
Across: 1. Fool's errand, 7. Chink, 8. Scrub, 9. Seep, 11. Bereft, 14. Master, 16. Bars, 20. Nerve, 21. Aroma, 22. Contentment.
Down: 1. Focus, 2. Olive, 3. Sake, 4. Russet, 5. Agree, 6. Debut, 10. Era, 12. Far, 13. Secede, 14. Manic, 15. Siren, 17. Alone, 18. Start, 19. Fact.

ABC TV (2)

6.00 News. **9.00** News. **10.00** Movin' To The Country. (R) **11.00** Antiques Roadshow. (R) **12.00** News. **1.00** Vera. (Ma) (R) **2.30** Back Roads. (R) **3.00** The Cook And The Chef. (R) **3.25** Tenable. (R) **4.15** Antiques Roadshow. (R) **5.15** Love Your Garden.

6.00 Back Roads: Lightning Ridge, NSW. (R)
6.30 Hard Quiz. (PG) (R)
7.00 ABC News.
7.30 7.30. Presented by Laura Tingle.
8.00 Revenge: Our Dad The Nazi Killer. (Ma) Part 1 of 2.
9.00 You Can't Ask That: Former Cult Members. (Mal) (R) Former cult members share their stories, from how they joined to what they were subjected to on the inside.
9.35 Louis Theroux: Transgender Kids. (Man) (R) Louis Theroux meets transgender kids.
10.35 ABC Late News.
10.50 War On Waste. (PG) (R)
11.55 Changing Ends. (PG) (R)
12.15 Love Your Garden. (R)
1.05 Tenable. (R)
1.50 Rage. (MA15+adhlnsv)
4.40 The Durrells. (PG) (R)
5.30 7.30. (R)

SEVEN (7) GC7 (6)

6.00 Sunrise. **9.00** The Morning Show Summer Series. (PG) **11.30** Seven Morning News. **12.00** Home And Away. (PGav) (R) **2.00** Border Security: International. (PG) (R) **2.30** Surf Patrol. (R) **3.00** The Chase. (R)

4.00 Seven News At 4.
4.30 The Chase Australia.
5.00 [BRIS/GC7] *The Chase Australia.*
5.30 Seven News Gold Coast.
6.00 Seven News.
7.00 Home And Away. (PGa) Tane misreads Harper's friendship. Justin asks Marilyn for a favour.
7.35 Cricket. Big Bash League. Game 38. Melbourne Stars v Hobart Hurricanes. From the MCG.
10.00 Motorway Patrol. (PGal) A motorist is running out of petrol and running from the pump. An officer rescues a kitten from the fast lane.
10.30 Highway Cops. (Ma) A dog lives up to its name.
11.00 Autopsy USA: Jeffrey Epstein. (MA15+a) (R)
12.00 Bates Motel. (Mav) (R)
2.00 Home Shopping. (R)
4.00 NBC Today.
5.00 Seven Early News.
5.30 Sunrise.

NINE (9) NBN (8) 9HD (90)

6.00 Today. **9.00** Australian Open Tennis Pre-Show. **10.00** Tennis. Australian Open. Day 2. From Melbourne Park. Hosted by Tony Jones.

3.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Afternoon 2.
5.30 Gold Coast News.
6.00 9News.
[NBN] *NBN News*
7.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Night 2. From Melbourne Park. Hosted by Tony Jones.
10.00 Tennis. Australian Open. Late night 2. From Melbourne Park. Hosted by Tony Jones.
11.00 New Amsterdam. (Mam) (R) Bloom, Iggy and Reynolds rally around Max.
12.00 Family Law. (Ma) (R) Abby and Daniel represent a trans teen.
1.00 #TextMeWhenYouGetHome: April Millsap. (M) (R) Looks at the disappearance of April Millsap.
2.00 Destination Australia: Rottnest Island. (R) Presented by Jo Beth Taylor and Scherri-Lee Biggs.
2.30 Global Shop. (R) Home shopping.
3.00 TV Shop: Home Shopping. (R)
4.00 Believer's Voice Of Victory. (PGa) Religious program.
4.30 Explore TV: Norfolk Island. (R)
5.00 9News Early.
5.30 Today.

TEN (10) 10GC (5) 10HD (1)

6.00 The Talk. (PGa) (Return) **7.00** Everyday Gourmet. (R) **7.30** Entertainment Tonight. (R) **8.00** Farm To Fork. (R) **8.30** Good Chef Bad Chef. (R) **9.00** Judge Judy. (PG) (R) **9.30** The Bold And The Beautiful. (PGa) (R) **10.00** The Yes Experiment. (R) **10.30** Luxury Escapes. (R) **11.00** Food Trail: South Africa. (R) **11.30** My Market Kitchen. (PGl) (R) **12.00** 10 News First: Midday. **1.00** Dr Phil. (PGls) (R) **2.00** Jamie Oliver: Cooking For Less. (R)

3.00 Entertainment Tonight.
3.30 Farm To Fork.
4.00 Neighbours. (PGa)
4.30 The Bold And The Beautiful. (PGa)
5.00 10 News First.
6.30 The Project. A look at the day's news.
7.30 Gladiators. (PGv) (New Series) Everyday Aussie challengers take on the gladiators in a series of iconic events, as well as brand new challenges.
8.55 FBI: Most Wanted. (Mav) (R) The team pursues the suspects responsible for an explosion at an Ohio energy plant.
10.50 The Project. (R) A look at the day's news.
12.00 The Late Show With Stephen Colbert. (PG)
1.00 Home Shopping. (R)
4.30 CBS Mornings.

SBS (3)

6.00 DW English News. **6.30** ABC America This Week. **7.30** France 24 English News. **8.00** DD India News Hour. **9.00** Destination Flavour. (R) **9.10** Cook Up Bitesize. (R) **9.15** World's Most Secret Homes. (PG) (R) **10.10** Paddington Station 24/7. (R) **11.00** Vienna: Empire, Dynasty And Dream. (PGa) (R) **12.10** BBC News At Ten. **12.30** ABC World News Tonight With David Muir. **1.00** PBS News Weekend. **1.30** Al Jazeera News Second Edition. **2.00** Destination Flavour China Bitesize. (R) **2.05** Tony Robinson: WWII By Drone. (Mav) (R) **3.00** Mastermind Aust. (R) **3.30** The Cook Up. (R) **4.00** The Supervet. **5.00** Motor Racing. Dakar Rally. Stage 7. Highlights.

6.00 Mastermind Australia. (R)
6.30 SBS World News.
7.30 Jonathan Ross' Myths And Legends: Wales. (PGa) Part 2 of 4.
8.25 Isle Of Wight: Jewel Of The South. A diver makes the discovery of a lifetime.
9.20 The Secret Life Of Lighthouses: Muckle Flugga. (PG) (R) Part 2 of 3.
10.15 SBS World News Late.
10.45 Bianca. (MA15+a)
11.45 Reyka. (MA15+av) (R)
3.40 Going Places With Ernie Dingo. (R) **4.40** Bamay. (R) **5.00** NHK World English News Morning. **5.30** ANC Philippines: The World Tonight.

RATING ADVICE: (P) Pre-School (C) Children (G) General (PG) Parental Guidance Recommended (M) Mature Audiences (MA15+) Mature Audiences Only (AV15+) extreme adult violence.
CONSUMER ADVICE: (a) Adult themes (h) Horror (s) Sex references (d) Drug references (l) Language (m) Medical procedures (n) Nudity (v) Violence (rp) Repeat (CC) Closed Captions. Listings are correct at the time of print and are subject to change by the networks.

ABC TV PLUS (22)

6.00 Children's Programs. **7.20** Bluey. **7.30** Spicks And Specks. **8.00** Would I Lie To You? **8.30** MythBusters. **9.20** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. **10.55** Louis Theroux's LA Stories. **Final. 11.55** Would I Lie To You? **12.30** QI. **1.00** Whose Line Is It Anyway? **1.45** Brian Johnson's A Life On The Road. **Final. 2.30** The Story Of Film: A New Generation. **3.50** ABC News Update. **3.55** Close. **5.00** Clangers. **5.10** Kiddets. **5.25** The Wonder Gang. **5.35** Numberblocks. **5.40** Peg + Cat. **5.55** Late Programs.

7TWO (72) GC (62)

6.00 Shopping. **6.30** Last Chance Learners. **7.00** Extreme Railways. **8.00** Million Dollar Minute. **9.00** Animal SOS Australia. **9.30** NBC Today. **10.30** Better Homes And Gardens Summer. **12.00** Better Homes. **1.00** I Escaped To The Country. **2.00** Weekender. **2.30** Cities Of The Underworld. **3.30** Last Chance Learners. **4.00** Animal Rescue. **4.30** Better Homes. **5.30** Escape To The Country. **6.30** Bargain Hunt. **7.30** Doc Martin. **8.30** Endeavour. **10.30** Fortitude. **11.30** Doc Martin. **12.30** Late Programs.

9GEM (92, 95) GC (82)

6.00 Gideon's Way. **7.00** Creflo. **7.30** Slippy. **8.00** TVShop. **9.00** Australian Open Tennis Pre Show. **10.00** Tennis. Australian Open. Day 2. **5.00** Tennis. Australian Open. Night 2.

10.00 Death In Paradise.
11.00 Madam Secretary.
12.00 Manifest. **1.00** Edgar Wallace Mysteries. **2.20** Explore. **2.30** Gideon's Way. **3.30** Seaway. **4.30** My Favorite Martian. **5.00** Animal Tales.

10 BOLD (12) GC (51)

6.00 Shopping. **8.00** Luxury Escapes. **8.30** All 4 Adventure. **9.30** Reel Action. **10.30** JAG. **12.30** ST: Voyager. **2.30** Jake And The Fatman. **3.30** Diagnosis: Murder. **5.30** JAG.

7.30 Bull. Bull is asked to help a teachers' union.
8.30 NCIS. With the help of the coast guard, Gibbs and the team investigate the murder of a marine on a dinner cruise.
10.20 NCIS: Los Angeles.
12.15 Shopping. **2.15** Diagnosis: Murder. **4.05** JAG.

ABC ME (23)

6.00 Children's Programs. **4.15** Bluey. **4.20** Odd Squad. **4.45** Little Lunch. **5.00** Popularity Papers. **5.25** Miraculous. (PG) **5.45** Hotel Transylvania. (PG) **6.00** Spooky Files. **6.25** Welcome To Cardboard City. **6.30** Operation Ouch! **7.00** Horrible Histories. **7.30** Shaun The Sheep. **7.35** The Penguins Of Madagascar. **8.00** The Legend Of Korra. (PG) **8.25** Jade Armor. **8.45** Mustangs FC. **9.10** School Of Rock. **9.35** Mythbusters "There's Your Problem!". (PG) **10.10** Rage. (PG) **11.15** Close.

7MATE (74) GC (64)

6.00 NFL. NFL Playoffs. Wild Card Round. Buffalo Bills v Pittsburgh Steelers. Continued. **7.30** NFL. NFL Playoffs. Wild Card Round. Dallas Cowboys v Green Bay Packers. **11.00** NFL. NFL Playoffs. Wild Card Round. Detroit Lions v Los Angeles Rams. **2.30** Armchair Experts: NFL Edition. **3.30** Storage Wars: New York. **4.30** Storage Wars. **5.00** American Pickers. **6.00** Cricket. Big Bash League. Game 38. Melbourne Stars v Hobart Hurricanes. **7.35** Outback Opal Hunters. **8.30** Aussie Salvage Squad. **10.30** Ax Men. **12.30** Late Programs.

9GO! (93,99) GC (83)

6.00 Children's Programs. **11.00** Movie: Pokémon: The Rise Of Darkrai (2007) **12.45** Children's Programs. **1.00** Rich House, Poor House. **2.00** Bewitched. **2.30** Full House. **3.00** Kenan. **4.00** Family Ties. **4.30** The Addams Family. **5.00** Bewitched. **5.30** News. **6.00** Tennis. Australian Open. Night 2. **7.00** The Nanny. **7.30** Seinfeld. **8.30** Movie: Assault On Precinct 13. (2005) **10.35** Seinfeld. **11.35** The Emily Atack Show. **12.15** Under The Dome. **1.10** Love After Lockup. **2.00** I Dream Of Jeannie. **2.30** Full House. **3.00** Late Programs.

10 PEACH (11) GC (52)

6.00 Big Bang. **10.30** Friends. **1.00** Two And A Half Men. **1.30** Ghosts. **3.30** King Of Queens. **4.30** Becker. **5.30** Frasier. **6.30** Neighbours.

7.00 The Big Bang Theory.
8.30 Two And A Half Men. Charlie worries about commitment.
10.00 Rules Of Engagement.
11.00 Frasier. **12.00** Shopping. **1.30** South Park. **2.30** Rules Of Engagement. **3.30** Bold. **4.30** Shopping.

ABC NEWS (24)

6.00 News. **8.00** News. **11.00** News. **1.00** ABC News Day. **2.00** News. **4.00** ABC News Hour. **6.00** National News. **6.30** Evening News. **7.00** News Tonight. **7.30** Aust Story. **8.00** Nightly News. **8.25** Foreign Correspondent. **9.00** The World. **9.30** 730. **10.00** News. **10.30** The Business. **11.00** News. **11.30** Aust Story. **12.00** News. **12.15** 730. **12.45** Camel Capers. **1.00** DW News. **1.15** News. **1.30** Foreign Correspondent. **2.00** DW News. **2.30** The World. **3.00** DW News. **3.30** 730. **4.00** Late Programs.

7BRAVO (75) GC (65)

6.00 Shark Tank. **7.00** Million Dollar Listing NY. **8.00** Dinner Date. **9.00** The Kelly Clarkson Show. **10.00** Shark Tank. **11.00** Million Dollar Listing NY. **12.00** Judge Jerry. **1.00** Escape To The Chateau: DIY. **2.00** Shark Tank. **3.00** Judge Jerry. **3.30** Jimmy Fallon. **4.30** Dinner Date. **5.30** Million Dollar Listing NY. **6.30** Shark Tank. **7.30** Botched By Nature. **8.30** Buried In The Backyard. **9.30** Accident, Suicide Or Murder. **10.30** Killer Couples. **11.30** Housewives Of Beverly Hills. **12.30** Botched By Nature. **1.30** Late Programs.

9LIFE (94) GC (84)

6.00 Morning Programs. **8.00** Build It Forward. **9.00** Zombie House Flipping. **10.00** House Hunters. **11.00** The Garden Revolution. **11.30** Getaway. **12.00** Flipping Down South. **1.00** Flipping 101 With Tarek El Moussa. **2.00** Zombie House Flipping. **3.00** The Block. **4.00** The Jennie Garth Project. **4.30** Martha Knows Best. **5.00** Build It Forward. **6.00** House Hunters Int. **7.00** House Hunters. **8.30** Christina On The Coast. **9.30** Flip Or Flop. **10.30** Mexico Life. **11.30** House Hunters. **12.00** Late Programs.

NITV (34)

6.00 Morning Programs. **1.35** Bamay. **2.30** The Cook Up. **3.00** Motown Magic. **3.25** The World According To Grandpa. **3.35** The Magic Canoe. **4.00** Toi Time. **4.30** Spartakus And The Sun Beneath The Sea. **5.00** Our Stories. **5.30** Stories From The Land. **6.00** Bamay. **6.30** News. **6.40** Volcanic Odysseys. **7.30** Who Do You Think You Are? **8.30** Living Black. **9.00** Movie: Backroads. (1977) **10.00** Movie: Jason's Lyric. (1994) **12.10** Power To The People. **1.00** NITV On The Road: Barunga Festival. **4.00** On The Road. **5.00** Bamay.

7FLIX (76) GC (66)

6.00 It's Academic. **7.00** ZooMoo. **8.00** News Of The Wild. **9.00** Shopping. **10.30** My Asian Banquet. **11.30** My France With Manu. **1.30** The Food Dude. **1.55** Intolerant Cooks. **2.20** A Moveable Feast. **2.45** My Kitchen Rules. **4.30** Bondi Vet.

6.30 Dr Harry's Animal Encounters.
7.30 Law & Order: Criminal Intent.
8.30 Law & Order: SVU.
10.30 Law & Order: LA. **12.30** The Blacklist. **1.30** Chicago P.D. **3.00** Criminal Minds. **4.00** S.W.A.T.

SBS VICELAND (31)

6.00 WorldWatch. **9.30** Small Business Secrets. **10.00** Front Up. **12.05** The Kimberley Cruise: The Full Journey. **2.15** Planet A. **3.05** Most Expensivest. **3.35** WorldWatch. **5.45** Joy Of Painting. **6.15** The Fast History Of. **6.40** Jeopardy! **7.30** NITV News Update. **7.35** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown.

8.30 Taskmaster.
9.25 Two Weeks To Live.
10.25 Scrubs. **11.25** Hoarders. **1.05** The Devil You Know. **1.55** Shrill. **2.25** NHK World English News. **5.00** Al Jazeera.

SBS MOVIES (32)

6.00 Steel Magnolias. (PG) (1989) **8.10** The 400 Blows. (PG) (1959, French) **10.00** Motherhood. (M) (2018) **11.35** Operation Mincemeat. (M) (2021) **2.00** Mr. Holmes. (PG) (2015) **3.55** Asterix: The Mansions Of The Gods. (PG) (2014, French) **5.30** Sunflower. (M) (1970, Italian) **7.30** Those Happy Years. (M) (2013) Micaela Ramazzotti.

9.30 Movie: Gotti (2018)
11.35 The Best Offer. (M) (2013) **2.00** In The Line Of Fire. (M) (1993) **4.25** Motherhood. (M) (2018)

SBS FOOD (33)

6.00 Morning Programs. **1.00** Greater Mekong. **1.30** Flour Power. **2.00** My Greek Table. **2.30** United Plates Of America. **3.30** Top Chef. **4.30** My Market Kitchen. **5.00** Everyday Gourmet. **5.30** Rick Stein's Cornwall. **6.00** Food Safari Earth. **6.30** Lidia's Kitchen. **7.00** The Cook Up. **7.30** Shane Delia's Spice Journey. **8.00** Luke Nguyen's India. **8.30** Eva Longoria: Searching For Mexico. **9.30** Dine With Me UK. **10.30** The Cook Up. **11.00** Bizarre Foods. **11.30** Cook And The Chef. **12.00** Late Programs.

PREMIERE (CH 401)

6.00 Tár. (2022) (M) **7.35** What's Love Got To Do With It? (2022) (M) **9.30** The Machine. (2023) (MA15+) **11.25** Fast X. (2023) (M) **1.55** Pearl. (2022) (MA15+) **3.48** Assassin Club. (2023) (MA15+) **5.45** Evil Dead Rise. (2023) (MA15+) **7.30** Children Of The Corn. (2020) (MA15+)

9.10 Three Thousand Years Of Longing. (2022) (M)
11.02 All My Friends Hate Me. (2021) (MA15+) **12.40** She Said. (2022) (M) **2.52** Mona Lisa And The Blood Moon. (2022) (MA15+) **4.40** I Am Here. (2021) (M) **5.55** Jane. (2022) (M)

GREATS (CH 410)

6.00 Stand By Me. (1986) **6.10** The Goonies. (1985) **8.10** Gremlins. (1984) **10.00** A League Of Their Own. (1992) **12.10** Major League. (1989) **2.00** Boiling Point. (1993) **3.40** The Big Lebowski. (1998) **5.40** Heart And Souls. (1993) Robert Downey Jr.

7.30 The Notebook. (2004)
9.40 Cast A Deadly Spell. (1991) Fred Ward.
11.20 Saturday Night Fever. (1977) John Travolta, Karen Lynne Gorney, Barry Miller. **1.15** Schindler's List. (1993) Liam Neeson. **4.25** Blade Runner. (1982) Harrison Ford.

UKTV (CH 105)

6.00 Emmerdale. (PG) **6.30** Coronation Street. (PG) **7.30** Mrs Brown's Boys. (M) **8.05** Jonathan Ross. (M) **9.05** Doc Martin. (M) **10.05** Would I Lie To You? (PG) **10.40** Who Do You Think You Are? (PG) **11.50** Midsomer Murders. (PG) **1.55** New Tricks. (M) **3.00** Father Brown. (M) **4.00** QI. (PG) **5.10** Richard Osman's House Of Games Night. (PG) **5.45** Emmerdale. (PG) **6.15** Coronation Street. (PG) **6.50** EastEnders. (PG) **7.30** DCI Banks. (MA15+) **8.30** New Tricks. (M) **9.30** 8 Out Of 10 Cats Does Countdown. (M) **11.25** Father Brown. (M) **12.15** Late Programs.

SHOWCASE (CH 112)

6.00 The Walking Dead. (MA15+) **9.00** Downton Abbey. (M) **10.00** Movie: Oslo. (2021) (M) **12.00** The Wire. (MA15+) **1.00** Big Little Lies. (M) **2.00** Downton Abbey. (M) **3.00** To Be Advised. **4.00** Entitled. (M) **5.00** The End. (MA15+) **5.30** Downton Abbey. (M) **7.30** True Detective: Night Country. New Series. **8.30** Bookie. (MA15+) **9.30** The Wire. (MA15+) **10.30** True Detective: Night Country. **11.30** Downton Abbey. (M) **12.30** The Newsroom. (M) **1.30** Six Feet Under. (MA15+) **2.30** Carnivàle. (MA15+) **3.30** Bored To Death. (M) **4.00** Late Programs.

DISCOVERY (CH 133)

6.00 Morning Programs. **8.15** Hoffman Family Gold. (M) **9.10** Moonshiners Special. (M) **10.05** Homestead Rescue. (PG) **11.55** Naked And Afraid. (M) **12.55** Aussie Gold Hunters. (PG) **1.50** End Of The Rope. (PG) **2.45** Deadliest Catch. (M) **3.40** Dirty Jobs. (PG) **4.35** Aussie Gold Hunters. (PG) **5.35** Gold Rush: Parker's Trail. (M) **6.30** Airplane Repo. (M) **7.30** Outback Opal Hunters. (PG) **8.30** Demolition Down Under. (PG) **9.25** Aussie Gold Hunters. (PG) **10.20** Naked And Afraid. (M) **11.15** Homestead Rescue. (M) **12.00** Late Programs.

FAMILY (CH 403)

6.00 The Angry Birds Movie 2. (2019) (PG) **6.25** Boonie Bears: Back To Earth. (2022) (PG) **8.05** Lyle, Lyle Crocodile. (2022) **8.10** Cloudy With A Chance Of Meatballs 2. (2013) **9.50** The Smurfs. (2011) **11.35** The Smurfs 2. (2013) **1.25** Smurfs: The Lost Village. (2017) **3.00** Flipper. (1996) (PG) **4.40** Puss In Boots: The Last Wish. (2022) (PG) **6.30** Lyle, Lyle Crocodile. (2022) **8.25** Paddington 2. (2017) **10.10** Pompo: The Cinéphile. (2021) (PG) **11.45** Paddington 2. (2017) **1.25** Prancer: A Christmas Tale. (2021) (PG) **3.13** Late Programs.

ACTION (CH 405)

6.00 Mission: Impossible. (1996) (M) **6.55** Unleashed. (2005) (MA15+) **8.40** The Dark Tower. (2017) (M) **10.20** Godzilla. (1998) (PG) **12.40** Wonder Woman. (2017) (M) **3.05** Wonder Woman 1984. (2020) (M) **5.40** 2 Fast 2 Furious. (2003) (M)

7.30 Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines. (2003) (M)
9.25 Death Race. (2008) (MA15+)
11.10 S.W.A.T. (2003) (M) **1.05** Blade II. (2002) (MA15+) **3.00** Ned Kelly. (2003) (MA15+) **4.50** The Man From U.N.C.L.E. (2015) (M)

FOX8 (CH 108)

6.00 Morning Programs. **11.00** To Be Advised. **12.00** Taskmaster. (M) **1.00** Taskmaster. (M) **2.00** Two And A Half Men. (M) **2.30** Two And A Half Men. (M) **3.00** Two And A Half Men. (M) **3.30** Entourage. (MA15+) **4.00** Entourage. (MA15+) **4.30** Taskmaster. (M) **5.30** Taskmaster. (M) **6.30** Taskmaster Champion Of Champions 3. New Series. **8.00** Krapopolis. (M) **9.00** Two And A Half Men. (M) **9.30** Two And A Half Men. (M) **10.00** Two And A Half Men. (M) **10.30** Entourage. (MA15+) **11.00** Entourage. (MA15+) **11.25** Krapopolis. (M) **12.15** Late Programs.

BBC FIRST (CH 119)

6.00 Silent Witness. (M) **7.05** Death In Paradise. (M) **8.05** Unforgotten. (MA15+) **9.00** Call The Midwife. (PG) **10.05** Chivalry. (MA15+) **10.30** Nolly. (M) **1.10** Marie Antoinette. (M) **2.15** Silent Witness. (M) **3.25** Death In Paradise. (M) **4.30** Unforgotten. (MA15+) **5.30** Call The Midwife. (PG) **7.40** Happy Valley. (MA15+) **8.45** The Catch. (M) **9.40** Marie Antoinette. (MA15+) **10.40** Death In Paradise. (M) **11.35** Unforgotten. (MA15+) **12.25** Silent Witness. (M) **1.25** Beyond Paradise: Behind The Scenes. (PG) **1.40** Late Programs. **5.55** Silent Witness. (M)

LIFESTYLE (CH 106)

6.00 Morning Programs. **9.00** Location, Location, Location Revisits. (PG) **10.00** GB Sewing Bee. **11.10** Selling Houses Aust. (PG) **12.15** Escape To The Country. **1.10** Antiques Roadshow. **2.20** Bargain Hunt. **3.15** Better Homes. **4.30** Chateau DIY. **5.30** 999: On The Front Line. (M) **6.30** Selling Houses Aust. (PG) **7.30** Long Lost Family: What Happened Next. (PG) **8.30** Sort Your Life Out. (PG) **9.40** Escape To The Country. **10.35** 24 Hours In Emergency. (PG) **11.35** Gogglebox Australia. (M) **12.25** Late Programs.

Tayla Hunt and Jordan Bruggy at Casablanca. Picture: Gustavo Tamashiro

Sasha Morpeth, Jordan Dowsett, Reid Polak, Trent Woolman, Zan Nunns, Yana Simovic, and Callum Hole at Cocktails. Picture: BelleSP/duyuphotograhy

Hayley Scott, Chloe Stick at Cocktails Surfers. Picture: Belle SP@duyuphotograhy

Matthew Nero and Hannah at Casablanca. Picture: Gustavo Tamashiro

Ashleigh Johnston, Kayla Johnston, and Kaitlyn Parleyliet at Cocktails. Picture: Belle SP@duyuphotograhy

NIGHTSPOTTING

Catch the action from across the Gold Coast's hottest party precincts

SCAN HERE FOR MORE PHOTOS ONLINE AT GOLDCOASTBULLETIN.COM.AU

Fred Smith and Gin Cluff at Pink Flamingo. Picture: Pedro Freitas

Rajat Paliwal and Dipanshi Paliwala at Pink Flamingo. Picture: Pedro Freitas

Anna Sam Herford and Jasmine Herford at The Avenue. Picture: Spectacular Studio

Kathi Schuetz and Annabelle Belle at The Avenue. Picture: Spectacular Studio

Georgia Flude and Makayla Carkazis at Pink Flamingo. Picture: Pedro Freitas

Sascha Lawson and Natasha Klempel at The Avenue. Picture: Spectacular Studio

Mackenzie Sexton and Taylah Mahon at Casablanca. Picture: Gustavo Tamashiro

Chontelle Stewart, Maddisyn Lewis, and Kelsie Douglas at The Avenue. Picture: Spectacular Studio

Monique Gabris, Caitlan McSqvaney, and Darcie Hogan at Cocktails. Picture: Belle SP@duyuphotograhy

Half of us regard super as 'lifeboat'

Megan Neil

Just over half of Australians are struggling financially but most view superannuation as "a lifeboat" for their future finances, according to new super industry-commissioned research.

An Essential Research survey conducted for the Super Members Council found that 53 per cent of people are experiencing some degree of financial difficulty.

Essential Research said the proportion of people under financial pressure was consistently high throughout 2023, up from 39 per cent in mid-2022.

A third of people felt financially secure and usually had spare money for savings or buying luxuries, and another 13 per cent described their position as comfortable, without concerns about paying bills.

The biggest group, representing 39 per cent of survey respondents, said they were "struggling a bit" and were having to watch their budgets to ensure there was enough money to cover all their bills.

Another 14 per cent described themselves as being in serious difficulty, and being able to pay all their bills was a regular concern.

Super Members Council executive general manager of advocacy Georgia Brumby said while cost-of-living pressures were hitting family budgets, superannuation gave them a feeling of certainty and future financial security.

"More Australians are feeling the economic pinch right now, but super is seen as a lifeboat through today's economic turbulent waters," Ms Brumby said.

The survey showed 58 per cent of people agreed that their superannuation helped them feel more confident about their financial wellbeing.

Among those experiencing financial difficulty, 54 per cent said super gave them confidence about their financial wellbeing.

Overall, 55 per cent of respondents who had superannuation agreed that super was a low-cost way to build savings.

Research house Chant West predicted the median growth super fund would return 8.8 per cent for 2023, helped by a share-market rally fuelled by tech stocks and expectations of lower rates.

Australians squeeze overseas visitors out of seats

Domestic market hurt by Aussie wanderlust

People queue for check in at Sydney Airport as destinations like the Gold Coast (below) still rate among domestic travellers' favourite locations. Flight Centre chief executive Graham Turner (right) says the 15 per cent bounce in international bookings is dwarfing the local 2 per cent lift.

Matt Bell

Australians have travelled across the country in their highest numbers since the pandemic, despite wild weather impacting popular destinations in Queensland, tourism operators say.

But the industry says inbound international tourism is not meeting expectations because Australians prioritising overseas travel in the wake of the pandemic and a lack of airline capacity was acting as a roadblock.

Flight Centre data shows that domestic travel bookings increased by 2 per cent from the previous year, and the Gold Coast, Ballina-Byron and Tasmania were the most popular destinations, while demand for Western Australia, Uluru and Alice Springs also surged.

The operator of Discovery Parks and G'Day Parks, G'day Group said bookings in WA were up 20 per cent from the previous year, and South Australia also did well as it saw more budget-conscious holiday-makers.

Popular destinations in Queensland, however, were affected by wild weather events. Cyclone Jasper caused damage across Far North Queensland and the temporary closure of Cairns Airport which peak body Accommodation Australia said caused occupancy rates to drop from mid 70 per cent to 30 per cent over December.

On the Gold Coast, wild thunderstorms forced the region's theme parks to close for several days.

Flight Centre chief executive Graham Turner said that the small spike in domestic tourism was dwarfed by a 15 per cent bounce in international booking over the Christmas period.

"People are still catching up from the Covid era where they couldn't fly and are prioritising international trips," Mr Turner said. "It is hard to know whether this will continue but forward bookings for overseas are very strong for the northern hemisphere summer."

Tourism Research Australia forecasts that international tourists won't surpass pre-pandemic levels until 2025 and the recovery was only two thirds complete. Meanwhile, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported that the number of Australians returning from an overseas holiday was only down 7 per cent from pre-pandemic levels.

Mr Turner said that the popularity of outbound travel was affecting the volume of international tourists who could enter Australia and that limited capacity and higher airfares was making the country expensive to visit.

"There is still a long way to go to get back to pre-pandemic levels for inbound tourism and how long will depend on capacity, with the big volume of Aussies travelling taking up much of the available seats," he said.

The federal and Queensland governments are hoping to draw tourists back to Far North Queensland with a $5m fund to support local operators and to offer discounted airfares to the region.

Australian Federation of Travel Agents chief executive Dean Long said floods and rain that impacted Queensland resorted in cancellations from travellers who he observed had opted against rebooking into another destination.

"It was interesting that we did not see those funds get deployed elsewhere, but north Queensland is a particular destination with activities that are very unique in Australia," he said.

G'day Group chief executive Grant Wilckens said the summer holiday period had met expectations, but weather had dampened demand in parts of the country.

"Overall we are pretty happy with how summer has gone. We've hit our targets for December and will do so January, and we are currently tracking up 10 per cent from pre-Covid levels," he said.

Over the December and January, the Qantas Group expected to fly more than 8.5 million people across 70,000 Qantas and Jetstar flights, while Virgin Australia forecast 3.3 million would travel on its network.

Downturn in tech, retail drives decline in job ads

Matt Bell

Employers should have an easier time finding workers if the number of applicants for job ads is any indication, and more Australians are expected to be out of work this year.

Data from online employment company Seek shows that nationally job ads were down 17.4 per cent in the 12 months to December due to a slowdown in the national economy.

Ads for tech workers were down by 32 per cent, followed by retail and hospitality sectors (down 27 per cent), which have been affected by a pullback in consumer spending.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics this week releases the latest labour force figures for December, and economists expect the unemployment rate to remain steady at 3.9 per cent and 18,000 jobs to be added – compared with 61,500 jobs created in November.

Seek said Victoria experienced the sharpest decline in the number of job ads in the past year with volumes down 25 per cent, followed by 23.3 per cent in NSW and 16.2 per cent in the ACT. The Northern Territory was the only jurisdiction to have had an increase – at 1.8 per cent.

The falling rate at which employers sought to hire staff helped drive a 6 per cent increase in applications per job ads in the month to December, which came as national job ads rose 0.5 per cent in the month.

"For only the third time in 18 months job ad volumes rose in December," Seek managing director Kendra Banks said.

"The rise was supported by an increase in demand for trades and services workers, specifically labourers, welders and boilermakers, and gardening and landscaping roles."

Tasmania was the best location for job ads growth in the past month; the state was up 5.6 per cent, followed the NT at 1.6 per cent and Queensland on 0.7 per cent.

Education had the smallest decline in job ad volume in the past year at 5.9 per cent, but volumes fell 3.5 per cent in the month to December as institutions wound down for the academic year.

Separately, the "Keeping us up at Night" survey of 319 senior executives by KPMG released earlier this month showed that fewer senior executives were concerned about finding talent, with 42 per cent citing it as an issue for the year ahead, compared with 77 per cent in 2023 and 69 per cent in 2022.

FORECAST

Statewide today

Scattered to widespread showers, isolated storms, and periods of rain in the far north and northwest. Possible severe storms with heavy rainfall in the far north and northwest. Isolated to scattered showers and the chance of a storm in eastern districts south of Ingham and in the southwest. Partly cloudy elsewhere. Maximum temperatures below average north of Richmond, near average elsewhere.

GOLD COAST
29 / 22
Showers.

SURFERS PARADISE
29 / 22
Showers.

COOLANGATTA
28 / 22
Showers.

COOMERA
29 / 22
Showers.

NERANG
29 / 21
Showers.

ROBINA
28 / 21
Showers.

Gold Coast Outlook:

Tuesday.	Showers. 22 / 28
Wednesday.	Shower or two. 22 / 29
Thursday.	Shower or two. 22 / 28
Friday.	Shower or two. 22 / 29
Saturday.	Shower or two. 21 / 29

Southeast Coast

Partly cloudy. High chance of showers. Winds southerly 15 to 20 km/h turning southeasterly 20 to 30 km/h during the morning.

Tuesday
Partly cloudy. High chance of showers, most likely in the morning and afternoon. The chance of a storm. Winds east to southeasterly 25 to 35 km/h becoming light during the evening.

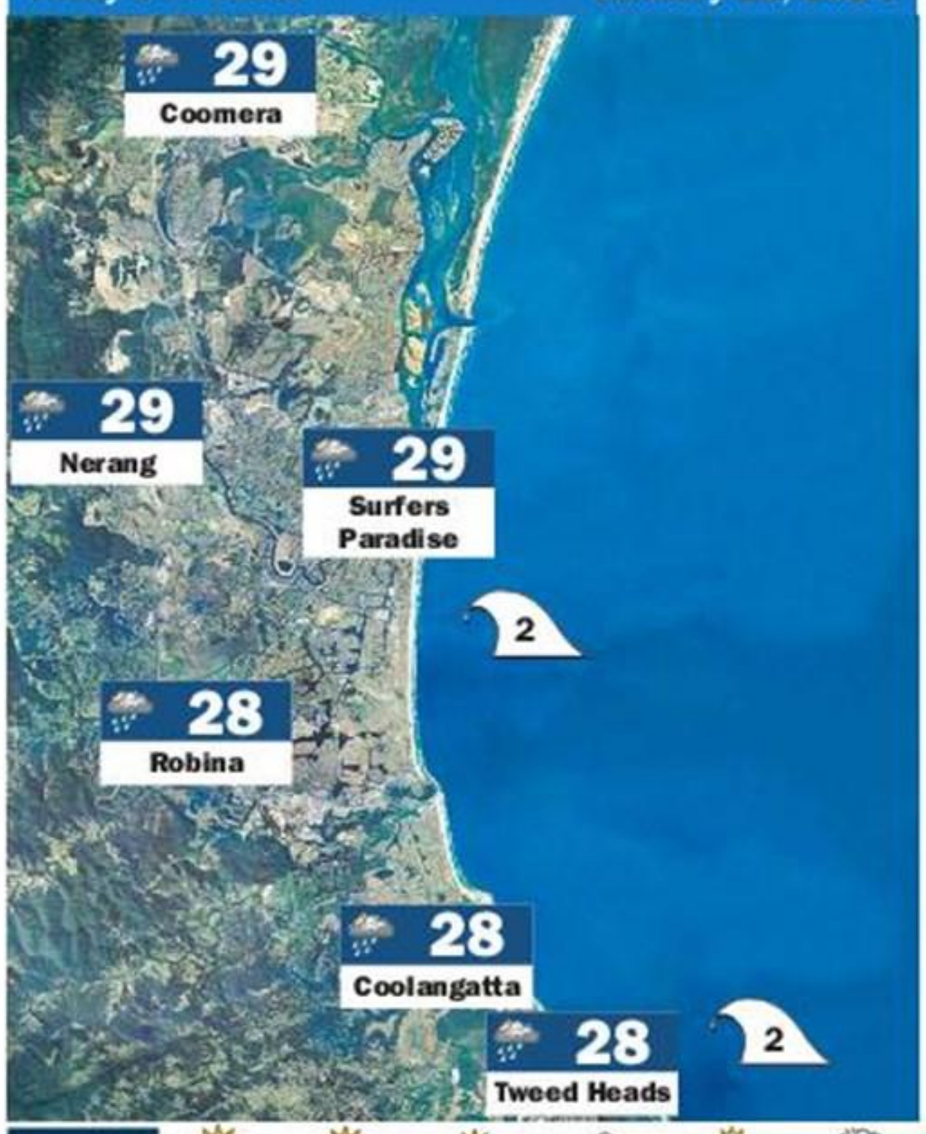
Wednesday
Partly cloudy. High chance of showers, most likely in the afternoon and evening. The chance of a storm. Light winds becoming northeasterly 15 to 20 km/h during the afternoon then becoming light during the evening.

Statewide tomorrow

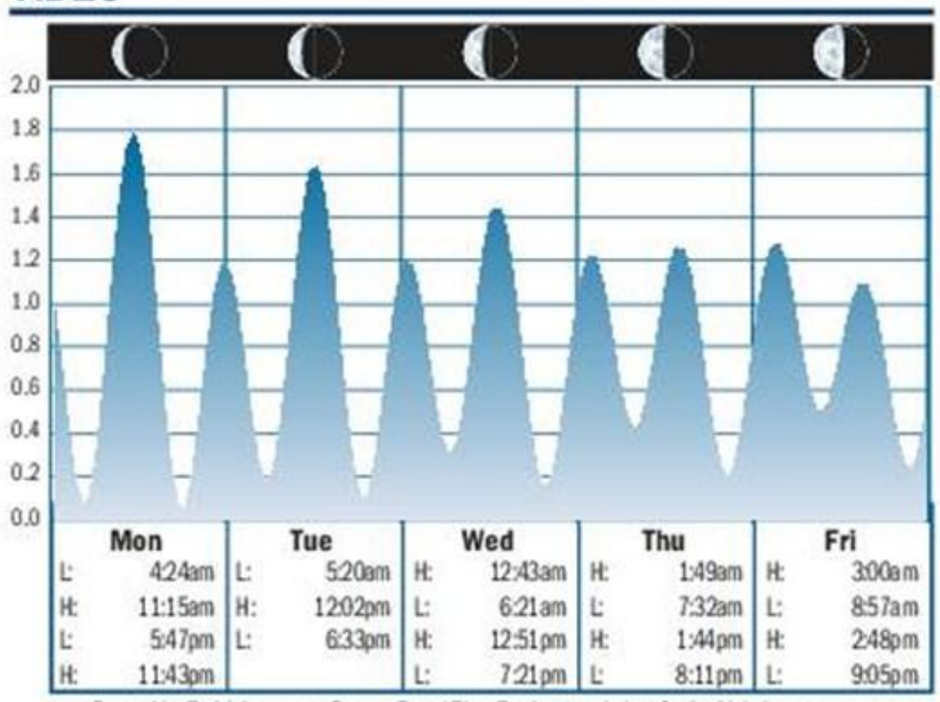
Scattered to widespread showers, isolated storms, and periods of rain in the far north and northwest. Possible severe storms with heavy rainfall in the far north and northwest. Isolated to scattered showers and the chance of a storm in eastern districts south of Ingham and in the southwest. Partly cloudy elsewhere. Maximum temperatures near average.

Wednesday
Scattered to widespread showers, isolated storms, and periods of rain in the far north and northwest. Possible severe storms with heavy rainfall in the far north and northwest. Isolated to scattered showers and storms elsewhere. Possible severe storms in the southern interior. Maximum temperatures near average.

Today's forecast — January 15, 2024



TIDES



Mon		Tue		Wed		Thu		Fri	
L:	4:24am	L:	5:20am	H:	12:43am	H:	1:49am	H:	3:00am
H:	11:15am	H:	12:02pm	L:	6:21am	L:	7:32am	L:	8:57am
L:	5:47pm	L:	6:33pm	H:	12:51pm	H:	1:44pm	H:	2:48pm
H:	11:43pm			L:	7:21pm	L:	8:11pm	L:	9:05pm

Currumbin, Burleigh same as Seaway. Tweed River Breakwater: deduct 4 mins high, low same. Runaway Bay: add 31 mins high, 52 mins low. Paradise Point: add 61 mins high, 1hr 25 mins low. Jumpinpin Bar to Snapper Rocks tides occur 20 mins earlier than Gold Coast Seaway.

SUN AND MOON

First	Full	Last	New
Jan 18	Jan 26	Feb 3	Feb 10

Today: **Sunrise** 5:04am **Sunset** 6:47pm **Moonrise** 8:48am **Moonset** 9:48pm

Warnings:
Latest info at **www.bom.gov.au/qld/warnings**
or 1300 659 210 (local call cost)
Issued for Mon, 15 January 2024

The Bureau of Meteorology
www.bom.gov.au

COASTAL WATERS

Cape Moreton to Point Danger
Winds: Southeasterly 15 to 25 knots. Seas: 1 to 1.5 m, increasing to 1.5 to 2 m during the morning. Swell: Southeasterly 1 to 1.5 m inshore, increasing to 1.5 to 2 m offshore. Weather: Partly cloudy. 90% chance of showers.
Tuesday. Winds: Southeasterly 15 to 25 knots turning east to southeasterly 10 to 15 knots in the evening. Seas: 1 to 1.5 m, increasing to 1 to 2 m offshore south of Point Lookout. Swell: Southeasterly 2 to 2.5 m. Weather: Partly cloudy. 90% chance of showers.

Moreton Bay
Winds: South to southeasterly 15 to 20 knots, reaching up to 25 knots in the northern bay in the afternoon. Seas: Around 1 m, increasing to 1 to 1.5 m in the northern bay around midday. Weather: Partly cloudy. 90% chance of showers.
Tuesday. Winds: Southeasterly 15 to 20 knots decreasing to 10 to 15 knots in the evening Seas: Around 1 m, increasing to 1 to 1.5 m in the far north. Weather: Partly cloudy. 80% chance of showers.

Double Island Point to Cape Moreton
Winds: Southeasterly 15 to 25 knots. Seas: 1 to 1.5 m, increasing to 1.5 to 2 m inshore during the morning. Swell: Southeasterly around 1 m inshore, increasing to 1.5 m offshore. Weather: Partly cloudy. 90% chance of showers.

Point Danger to Wooli
Winds: Southeasterly 15 to 20 knots, reaching up to 25 knots south of Cape Byron during the afternoon and evening. Seas: 1 to 1.5 m, increasing to 1 to 2 m south of Cape Byron. Swell: Southeasterly 1.5 m, increasing to 1.5 to 2 m around midday. Weather: Partly cloudy. 90% chance of showers.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

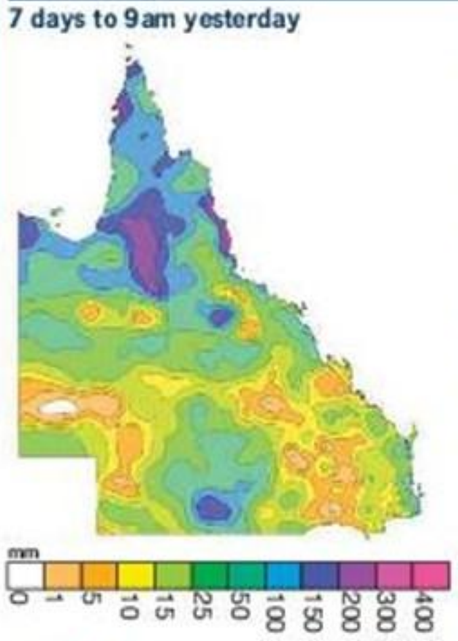
Adelaide	Mostly sunny.	33	Hobart	Partly cloudy.	23
Albury	Partly cloudy.	30	Melbourne	Mostly sunny.	28
Alice Springs	Mostly sunny.	40	Mildura	Shower or two, storm.	34
Bourke	Shower, storm.	36	Mt. Gambier	Sunny.	32
Brisbane	Showers.	30	Perth	Sunny.	37
Broome	Partly cloudy.	34	Sunshine Coast	Showers.	28
Cairns	Showers.	30	Sydney	Showers easing.	24
Canberra	Shower or two.	20	Toowoomba	Shower, windy.	28
Darwin	Rain, storm, falls.	29	Townsville	Showers.	31

WORLD CENTRES

Auckland	20	26	showers	London	-1	2	sunny
Bangkok	25	36	fine	Los Angeles	9	18	sunny
Beijing	-9	4	fine	New Delhi	4	19	cold
Cape Town	17	26	fine	New York	-5	1	sunny
Christchurch	12	17	showers	Paris	1	3	sunny
Dubai	16	27	fine	Rome	7	15	mist
Hong Kong	18	24	sunny	Singapore	24	32	storms
Honolulu	19	27	sunny	Suva	25	29	storms
Jakarta	26	29	rain	Tokyo	3	11	fine

Rainfall

7 days to 9am yesterday

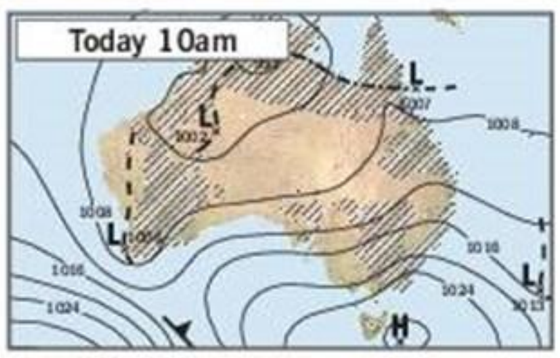


Location	Daily	Weekly	Month to date
Amberley	0.0	27.4	78.4
Applethorpe	0.2	26.6	34.8
Archerfield	0.0	49.6	119.8
Ballina	0.0	12.4	38.6
Beaudesert	0.0	16.4	109.6
Brisbane	0.2	54.2	114.2
Casino	0.0	7.8	35.4
Coolangatta	0.0	72.8	130.2
Dalby	0.0	9.6	10.0
Gatton	0.0	5.0	14.2
Gold Coast	0.2	66.6	126.8
Gympie	0.2	40.4	70.8
Hinze Dam	0.0	117.0	117.0
Kingaroy	0.0	4.4	5.0
Logan City	0.0	16.0	71.0
Maroochydore	0.0	16.8	281.6
Maryborough	3.8	40.4	77.4
Murwillumbah	0.0	191.0	352.0
Nambour	0.2	63.0	245.8
Oakey	0.0	10.2	11.8
Stanthorpe	0.1	25.6	29.3
Tewantin	0.2	46.4	238.0
Toowoomba	0.0	23.2	34.2
Warwick	0.0	4.0	4.0

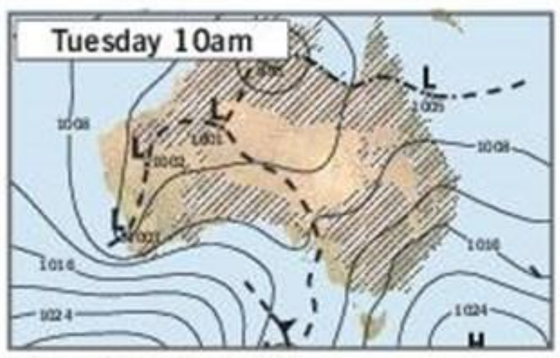
SUNSMART
Surfers Paradise
Sun protection recommended between
7:40am - 4:00pm

CHART KEY

Isobars — 1016 (hectopascals) — Cold Front ▲▲ Warm Front ●● Trough - - - - Rain - 24 hrs to 10am



Gold Coast: Showers. 22 / 29
Surfers Paradise: Showers. 22 / 29
Coolangatta: Showers. 22 / 28
Coomera: Showers. 22 / 29
Nerang: Showers. 21 / 29
Robina: Showers. 21 / 28



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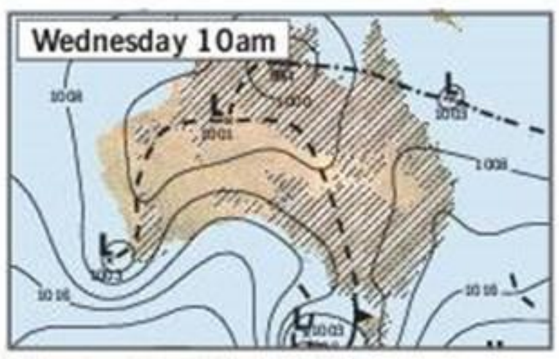

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Robina: Shower or two. 21 / 29

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Fraud is the real deal

If someone is requesting money to be transferred to an address or account prior to receiving the goods it may be fraudulent.

Don't be a wally, exercise caution before you respond to a request. Always verify the authenticity of persons requesting your credit card or bank details prior to making any transfers. For more info from the experts visit **buysearchsell.com.au/staysafe**

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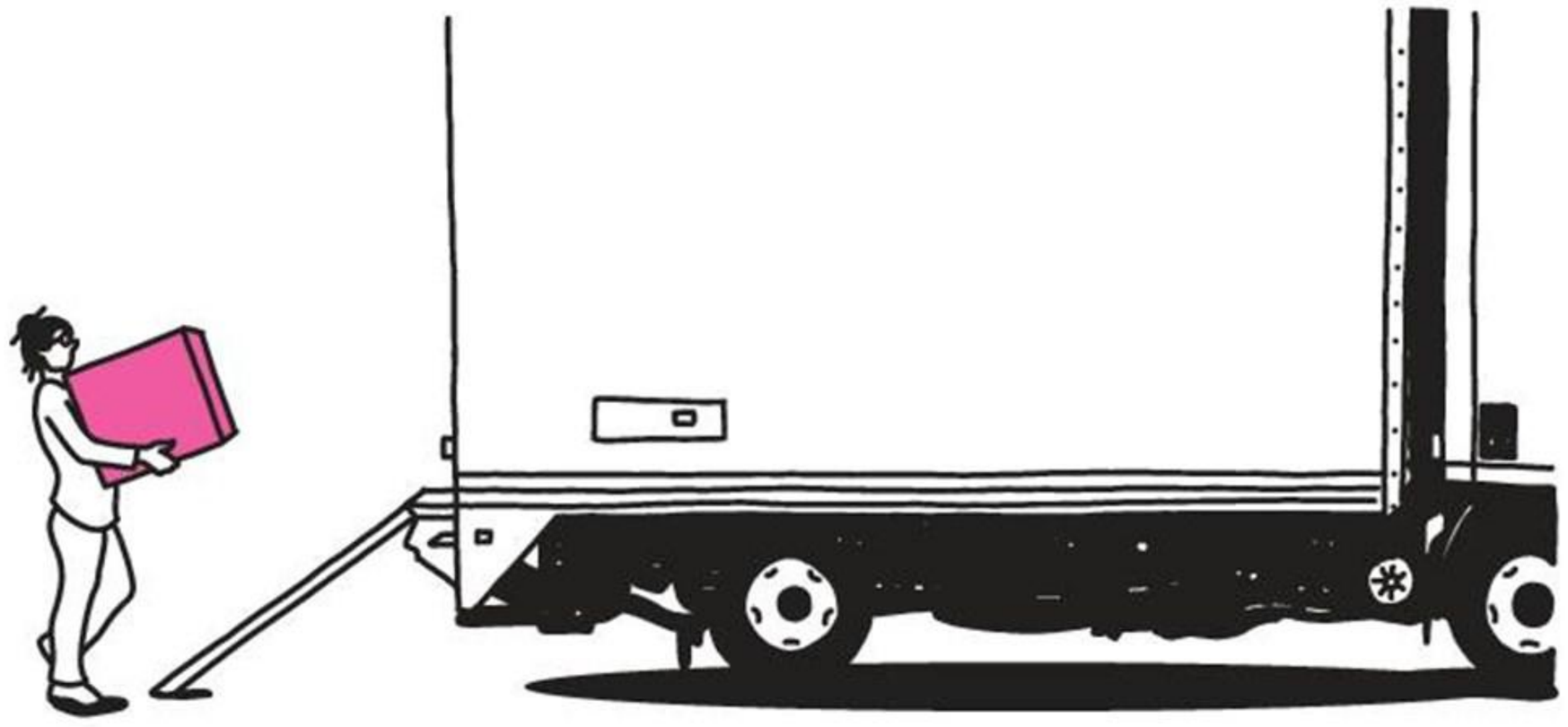

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GBEOL20JMA - V1

TAB WARWICK RACES

TODAY TAB CODE: BR

DOWNLOAD THE TAB APP

DAILY DOUBLE 6 & 8
EARLY QUAD 1, 2, 3, 4
TREBLE 6, 7, 8
QUADDIE 5, 6, 7, 8

1 12.58 STITCH N WEAR EMBROIDERY PLATE EQ1

1350m. $22,000. Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

	FORM	HORSE (BARRIER)	JOCKEY	WGT	RTG	ODDS
1	66674	DUSTYIAM (4) (h)	Ms M Savva	58.5	83	26.00
2	76942	LE GAGNEUR (11)	C Sutherland (a3)	58.5	91	13.00
3	s6383	SNAKESKIN (12)	J Molloy (a)	58.5	87	7.50
4	08	SPHERECRAAFT (13)	W O'Connell	58.5	85	34.00
5	6s555	DEE STORMED (15)	J Guthmann-Chester	57	96	★2.50
6	28s09	TOTSPUR (1)	Ms C Eaton	57	100	26.00
7	09	WHISKY TYCOON (10)	Ms L Barr (a2)	57	70	51.00
8	0s867	AKEED'S GIRL (6)	C Taylor	56.5	76	81.00
9	4s973	MADAM ROCK (7)	Scratched	56.5		–
10	96476	SEVERINE (9) (h)	K Yoshida	56.5	83	10.00
11	8s3	TRUST A KITTY (14)	W D'Avila	56.5	98	8.50
12	9s9	BRAVE HOSHI (5)	K H Zechner	55	70	41.00
13	80	KICKS AND GIGGLES (2)	Ms G Cartwright	55	78	31.00
14	623s0	THE LITTLE SPARROW (8)	Ms T Brooker	55	93	7.50
		EMERGENCY				
15	875s8	VAIN LUKE (3) (h)	Ms S Wilcock (a1.5)	58.5	75	101.00

DEE STORMED 1, Snakeskin 2, The Little Sparrow 3

GEAR CHANGES

RACE 1: (4) Spherecraaft blinkers on first time; (6) Totspur tongue-tie off first time **RACE 2:** (4) Primary Witness blinkers on again, nose roll off first time; (6) Smoke 'N' Oakum pre-race ear muffs on first time, gelded, tongue-tie on first time; (8) The Magician blinkers on first time; (11) Smash It Maddi winkers on first time; (13) Gypsy White Socks blinkers on again, winkers off first time; (14) Summer Ready blinkers on first time **RACE 4:** (1) Big Sky Country gelded, lugging bit on first time; (4) Gypsy Tricks cross-over noseband off first time, tongue-tie off first time; (11) Story Of Stella cross-over noseband on first time, tongue-tie on first time; (12) Bedaub blinkers on again, tongue-tie on again **RACE 5:** (1) Private Banker blinkers off again, winkers on again; (6) Easy Come front pads on again; (7) Stryking Princess nose roll off again; (10) Licenced And Ready blinkers on again **RACE 6:** (1) Whyteepee cross-over noseband on first time, lugging bit on first time, winkers off first time; (2) Michita gelded; (3) Rothsphene near-side bubble cheeker on first time, cross-over noseband on first time, gelded; (6) Time To Launch tongue-tie on first time; (7) Too Much Makeup blinkers off first time, compression hood with ear muffs on first time, ear muffs off first time; (12) Ruby Red blinkers on first time, tongue-tie on first time; (13) Shintaro Lass blinkers off first time, pre-race ear muffs on first time; (14) Stella Enigma tongue-tie on first time; (15) Mister winkers on first time; (16) Madame Moth blinkers on first time, pre-race ear muffs on first time; (19) Smokin' De Quo blinkers on first time; (20) Mandalong Helicat tongue-tie on first time; (21) All Win pre-race ear muffs off first time, winkers off first time; (23) War Hope dually headcollar off first time, pre-race ear muffs off first time **RACE 7:** (5) Private Banker blinkers off again, winkers on again **RACE 8:** (8) Five Star Decanter tongue-tie off first time; (12) Bernmark cheekers on first time, tongue-control bit on first time, tongue-tie off first time; (17) Instant Response visors on first time, winkers off first time

THE DETAILS

RAIL: True **TRACK:** Good (4)

2 1.33 WARWICK SANDSTONE PLATE EQ2

1350m. $22,000. Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	63s74	ADELATION (15)	K Yoshida	58.5	88	21.00
2	0	BETTER EXCEED (7)	Ms M Savva	58.5	78	31.00
3	8s905	MARLEE'S ZANDER (10)	Ms G Cartwright	58.5	92	26.00
4	0x269	PRIMARY WITNESS (12)	J Huxtable	58.5	82	15.00
5	9s480	TIME FOR JACK (5)	B Loy	58.5	81	21.00
6		SMOKE 'N' OAKUM (1)	C Bayliss	57	87	17.00
7	36452	SPECIALTIE (4)	E Chaves	57	97	8.50
8	8	THE MAGICIAN (6)	B Appo	57	72	26.00
9	3s373	LOVE ON DISPLAY (13)	Ms B Ainsworth	56.5	99	4.90
10	94046	RED HOT LOVE (14) (h)	N Tomizawa	56.5	84	21.00
11	387s6	SMASH IT MADDI (9)	Jai Williams (a)	56.5	93	6.50
12	6s932	UNLEASH (2) (b)	K H Zechner	56.5	100	★2.90
13	s9580	GYPSY WHITE SOCKS (8)	Ms T Brooker	55	81	34.00
14	6	SUMMER READY (16)	Scratched	55		–
		EMERGENCIES				
15	86377	RODEO LEGEND (11)	Ms T Noble (a3)	58.5	88	61.00
16	99097	ENTERPRISE FUSE (3) (h)		56.5	74	101.00

UNLEASH 1, Love On Display 2, Smash It Maddi 3, Special tie 4

3 2.08 CARS MADE EASY EQ3

800m. $20,000. Benchmark 70. Apprentices can claim.

1	0231s	DREAM WEAVING (1) (dw)	C Sutherland (a3)	61	95	5.50
2	2009s	ICED (2) (tn)	Ms G Cartwright	61	94	26.00
3	13560	TURBOART (6) (wn)	J Huxtable	60.5	78	11.00
4	s4422	POLYLITHIC (NZ) (7) (wn)	B Loy	60	93	★4.80
5	6166s	BRING ME KASH (4) (dw)	Scratched	59		–
6	21111	HOT OR NOT (5) (dn)	Scratched	59		–
7	81828	COPPER SUNSET (3) (dtcw)	N Tomizawa	55.5	86	18.00
8	7s702	AMANECER (8) (w)	Scratched	54		–

POLYLITHIC 1, Dream Weaving 2

4 2.48 WESTSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE PLATE EQ4

800m. $20,000. Class 1 SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	s35s1	BIG SKY COUNTRY (3)	Ms E Lang (a)	60	100	★3.20
2	2s121	CHISUM (14) (h)	P Hamblin	60	97	5.00
3	673s0	ELECTRIC (11) (w)	B Loy	60	81	21.00
4	1s704	GYPSY TRICKS (NZ) (9)	L J Miller	60	93	6.50
5	3081	NOW AND BEN (7)	J Huxtable	60	85	18.00
6	615s	BLACK COUNTRY (13)	Ms S McCann (a2)	58.5	82	34.00
7	43586	ACIREMA (15)	Jai Williams (a)	58	84	12.00
8	7s702	AMANECER (4) (w)	W D'Avila	58	88	12.00
9	s9416	ELKA ELEVEN (1) (n)	Ms G Cartwright	58	82	21.00
10	1	I'M A TINY DANCER (10) (dtcwn)	K Yoshida	58	87	10.00
11	46360	STORY OF STELLA (12) (wn)	J Molloy (a)	58	81	21.00
12	240s7	BEDAUB (2)	Ms T Brooker	56.5	92	18.00
		EMERGENCIES				
13	62859	SHE'S SO VAIN (6)		58	72	51.00
14	32745	WHISTLIN' RULER (8)		60	84	13.00
15	88045	INVANESS (5)	Ms S Willis (a2)	58	72	51.00

BIG SKY COUNTRY 1, Chisum 2, Gypsy Tricks 3, I'm A Tiny Dancer 4

5 3.28 DARLING DOWNS HARNESS RACING CLUB Q1

1200m. $20,000. Benchmark 60. Apprentices can claim.

1	18435	PRIVATE BANKER (8)	Scratched	61		–
2	25237	ONE REASON (2) (ri)	Ms S Champkin (a2)	60	100	4.00
3	2755s	DAD'S LAD (10) (h)	Ms L Barr (a2)	58.5	95	14.00
4	03770	BOBBY AXELROD (1) (tw)	T Lesliqht (a1.5)	58	76	18.00
5	71259	HEART OF MARBLE (6) (d)	J Molloy (a)	57	98	8.50
6	14123	EASY COME (9) (dwn)	Ms T Noble (a3)	56	96	14.00
7	2605s	STRYKING PRINCESS (4) (dtwh)	N Tomizawa	56	85	41.00
8	33133	SEIRYU (5) (dwn)	Ms T Brooker	55.5	94	5.50
9	65s13	TATTLE (3) (dnb)	Ms G Cartwright	55.5	98	★3.20
10	21170	LICENCED AND READY (7) (dh)	Ms C Eaton	55	81	51.00
11	61333	EYE WANTED (12)	Scratched	54		–
12	70094	WHISTLE HOFF (11) (dwn)	K H Zechner	54	92	21.00
13	58080	WHISTLIN' ARROW (13) (dtw)		54	75	51.00

ONE REASON 1, Tattle 2, Seiryu 3, Heart Of Marble 4

6 4.08 WARWICK HOTEL PLATE DD1 Q2

1100m. $22,000. Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	0336s	WHYTEEPEE (9)	J Huxtable	58.5	82	21.00
2		MICHITA (6)	Ms M Savva	57	72	14.00
3		ROTHSPHENE (3)	Ms Y Lewis (a)	57	81	15.00
4	s375s	ROMANTIC THOUGHTS (19)	N Tomizawa	56.5	93	8.50
5		TANTALISING (20)	Ms S Wilcock (a1.5)	56.5	86	18.00
6	2243	TIME TO LAUNCH (18)	Scratched	56.5		–
7	0349s	TOO MUCH MAKEUP (7) (h)	W D'Avila	56.5	93	14.00
8	92	BELEGATO (NZ) (12)	Scratched	55.5		–
9	226s2	EXCLUSIVE DROP (10)	T Lesliqht (a1.5)	55	95	★7.50
10		JUNGLE LAW (1)	Ms L Barr (a2)	55	81	14.00
11	38s94	PRINCESS LUTETIA (11)	Scratched	55		–
12		RUBY RED (14) (h)	Ms T Noble (a3)	55	84	19.00
13		SHINTARO LASS (16)	Scratched	55		–
14		STELLA ENIGMA (22)	Ms G Cartwright	55	76	8.50
		EMERGENCIES				
15	3s5	MISTER (15)	Ms E Lang (a)	57	90	14.00
16	6	MADAME MOTH (23)	Ms B Ainsworth	55	83	18.00
17	9s	GOTEBO (17)	Ms S Champkin (a2)	58.5	91	14.00
18	0	LITTLE VAIN (2) (h)	K Yoshida	58.5	72	61.00
19	9s	SMOKIN' DE QUO (21)	C Bayliss	56.5	79	18.00
20	9s6	MANDALONG HELLCAT (13) (h)		55	72	31.00
21	55s	ALL WIN (5)		58.5	90	14.00
22	7760s	NORTHWOOD POPPET (4)		56.5	75	61.00
23	558s7	WAR HOPE (8)		58.5	73	51.00

EXCLUSIVE DROP 1, Romantic Thoughts 2, Stella Enigma 3

7 4.48 SUPPORT CANCER CURE FOR MATT STANDING Q3

1350m. $20,000. Benchmark 62. Apprentices can claim.

1	s3170	MOST DAZZLING (4) (dwn)		63.5	100	7.50
2	41865	KING OF THE DESERT (1) (wn)	Ms S Champkin (a2)	61.5	100	15.00
3	65256	PREPOTENT (3) (twn)	K H Zechner	60.5	98	★4.20
4	12713	DEELOSH (5)		60	99	5.50
5	18435	PRIVATE BANKER (7)	B Loy	60	95	8.50
6	21524	CHARGED (10) (dwn)	Ms G Cartwright	59	95	12.00
7	321s7	TAKUNAI (11) (twn)	Ms R Jamieson	59	86	18.00
8	0x237	BEAN ROCKING (6) (w)	J Huxtable	58.5	94	12.00
9	52315	DREAMSEEKER (12) (dtcwb)		58.5	94	15.00
10	17534	SPIRIT'S CHARM (2) (dw)	Ms T Brooker	58	93	16.00
11	13328	DAZZLING FLASH (8) (wn)	T Lesliqht (a1.5)	57.5	87	13.00
12	66348	BULL DIMPLE RUM (13) (wnb)	Scratched	56		–
13	72868	SIR PICCOLO (14) (dtcw)	K Yoshida	55.5	85	41.00
14	06535	HERECUMDA DRUMS (9) (dtw)	N Tomizawa	54	99	16.00

PREPOTENT 1, Deelosh 2, Most Dazzling 3, Private Banker 4

8 5.25 ENSBEY ELECTRICAL HCP DD2 Q4

1500m. $20,000. Class 2. Apprentices can claim.

1	s5082	KUBWA (7)	J Huxtable	60	99	8.50
2	13526	SUPER DUCK (15) (hb)	W D'Avila	58	88	6.00
3	90x22	IRISH SALLY (10) (h)	K H Zechner	57.5	100	★3.20
4	627s2	MOUNT ZION (14) (w)	Ms R Jamieson	57.5	85	8.50
5	155s0	AMPHAWA (17) (dw)	Scratched	57		–
6	49617	ISLA'S DAY (1) (dw)		57	98	6.00
7	26604	DARCHINIAN (2) (w)	N Tomizawa	56	91	17.00
8	480s5	FIVE STAR DECANTER (NZ) (5)	Ms G Cartwright	55.5	87	34.00
9	327s0	LAWBREAKER (5)	C Bayliss	55.5	99	12.00
10	79s08	MONACO DELUXE (3)	Ms A Donald (a)	55	74	61.00
11	57274	SCAPINI (11)	Ms S Champkin (a2)	54.5	90	8.50
12	9s660	BERNMARK (9) (d)	Ms E Lang (a)	54	81	26.00
13	12069	TEMPTRESS KATIE (16) (w)	C Taylor	54	84	31.00
14	77102	REDVEDEV (NZ) (13)	Ms M Savva	54	84	41.00
		EMERGENCIES				
15	54697	SINNAMON TOAST (4)		54	78	61.00
16	7s696	BETTER CLASS (6)		54	84	26.00
17	83489	INSTANT RESPONSE (18) (w)	Ms L Barr (a2)	54	81	51.00
18	89759	FAITHFUL MARYANNE (12) (wn)		54	81	101.00

IRISH SALLY 1, Isla's Day 2, Super Duck 3, Scapini 4

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TAB DUBBO RACES

TODAY TAB CODE: SR

DAILY DOUBLE 5 & 7
EARLY QUAD 1, 2, 3, 4
TREBLE 5, 6, 7
QUADDIE 4, 5, 6, 7

THE DETAILS

RAIL: True **TRACK:** Soft (5)

TAB FIXED ODDS ALL RACES

1 12.50 COCA COLA NO SUGAR PLATE EQ1

1100m. $22,000. C,H&G Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

	FORM	HORSE (BARRIER)	JOCKEY	WGT	RTG	ODDS
1	4	CALMUNDI (7)	W A Stanley (a1.5)	59	75	81.00
2	0x332	CANNY PROSPECT (6) (b)	N Heywood	59	100	★1.80
3	2549s	LUSKIN VAIN (8)	Ms C Ings	59	87	21.00
4	6	PLATINUM WARRIOR (2) (h)	Ms S Ingelse (a2)	59	84	12.00
5		BYRON'S FARM (5)	B Nock (a1.5)	57.5	77	21.00
6	2	CHEAP GAS (1)	J Pracey-Holmes	57.5	90	3.60
7	7s723	HE'S ALL STYLE (3) (h)	C Gallagher	57.5	95	3.60
8	6	PARTYGATE (4)	Scratched	57.5		–

CANNY PROSPECT 1, He's All Style 2, Cheap Gas 3, Calmundi 4

2 1.25 BARASTOC RACE N WIN PLATE EQ2

1100m. $22,000. F&M Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	0569s	CAMP COVE (4) (h)	M Stapleford (a3)	58	91	19.00
2	0s089	KERMIE GAL (8)	K Dunbar	58	78	101.00
3	8s520	PAINITE (7)	A Cavallo	58	87	11.00
4	04204	SALLISTA (3)		58	88	16.00
5	68s33	TAKEN FOR GRANTED (11)	Scratched	58		–
6	47s2	CHOICE WITNESS (5) (b)	C Vitler (a2)	56.5	100	★1.65
7	9	DERVINIA (12) (h)	R Simpson (a)	56.5	81	18.00
8		DON'T TELL TARA (1) (h)	Ms K Bell-Pitsmac	56.5	79	21.00
9	0	FLASH DANDINO (10) (h)	M Heagney	56.5	78	101.00
10	60s9	FLYING NINA (2)	M A Cahill	56.5	78	31.00
11		GRAND OYSTER (9) (h)	Ms A Cooper (a3)	56.5	85	7.50
12		VERENDY (6)	B Nock (a1.5)	56.5	94	5.50

SALLISTA 1, Choice Witness 2, Verendy 3, Painite 4

3 2.00 DESSPOS SOLUTIONS EQ3

1400m. $30,000. Maiden. Apprentices can claim.

1	24s52	MEDINAH (2) (b)		59	97	★2.60
2	00s7	TAKE IT ON THE RUN (10) (h)	R Simpson (a)	56.5	76	81.00
3	36825	DALANTE (11) (h)	M Heagney	55.5	90	41.00
4	6	DANCES WITH HOOVES (4) (b)	M A Cahill	55.5	94	4.00
5	8s455	FREEWHEELER (1)	C Vitler (a2)	55.5	98	5.00
6	9s507	LAISVAS (12) (h)	M Stapleford (a3)	55.5	87	21.00
7	74	MISSION MUMMABEAR (3) (h)	C Gallagher	55.5	91	10.00
8	04724	SENSEI JACKIE (7) (h)	J Pracey-Holmes	55.5	97	13.00
9	6s80	SWEET BREEZE (5) (h)	Ms K Bell-Pitsmac	55.5	73	151.00
10	54s73	THE GIT UP (6)	B Nock (a1.5)	55.5	100	10.00
11	36988	THE PERCENTAGE (8)	J Rogers	55.5	83	81.00
12	63743	UNDER ACHIEVER (NZ) (9)	A Cavallo	55.5	94	10.00

MEDINAH 1, Freewheeler 2, The Git Up 3, Dances With Hooves 4

4 2.40 MAAS MILE PLATE EQ4 Q1

1600m. $27,000. Class 1/Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	4s067	AUSSIE PHAROAH (8) (dtcw)	B Looker	59	90	41.00
2	s5624	GIRRAGULANG (5)	Ms C Hiller (a1.5)	59	89	26.00
3	4s534	HALLOWED STAR (14) (h)	R Simpson (a)	59	100	4.00
4	35137	I AM CONVINCING (4) (w)	M Stapleford (a3)	59	90	13.00
5	45324	KARAOKE KING (12) (wnb)		59	96	9.50
6	s1s99	SHADOW SHOT (3)	C Gallagher	59	81	61.00
7	67015	SNITCH'N'SNATCHING (13) (dw)	S Lisnyy	59	91	21.00
8	147s8	ZOUCAN TOUCAN (11)	B Nock (a1.5)	59	86	51.00
9	4s216	ROTHGATE (7) (hb)	M A Cahill	57.5	97	3.80
10	43410	DHYANI (NZ) (10) (d)	J Barrie (a2)	57	97	19.00
11	8s64	THUNDERBOLTER (9)	N Heywood	56.5	88	21.00
12	744s1	ERELLE (2)	C Vitler (a2)	55.5	93	★3.40
13	39s36	MRS BULL (1) (h)	Ms G McDonnell	55	95	15.00
14	09	TWENTY FOUR GUNS (NZ) (6)		55	79	81.00

ERELLE 1, Hallowed Star 2, Snitch'n'snatching 3, Karaoke King 4

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5 3.20 MEDLEY REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING DD1 Q2

1100m. $22,000. Class 1. Apprentices can claim.

1	89x24	DESTINY'S BOUNTY (6) (w)	W A Stanley (a1.5)	61.5	88	12.00
2	21s	EAGLE DGE (18) (dtcw)	C Gallagher	59	87	★3.90
3	19s	ZAP YAH (13) (dwh)	Ms Z Hunt (a3)	58	85	9.50
4	7241s	PLENITUDE (9) (dtcwh)	R Simpson (a)	57.5	96	4.80
5	1s6	DANCE DES (5)	N Heywood	56.5	88	6.50
6	28174	FANTASY CROWNED (10) (h)	Ms K Bell-Pitsmac	56.5	87	34.00
7	56217	SOUTH BULLAWAY (17) (dh)	B Looker	56.5	91	10.00
8	0327s	SPEUDOSA (7) (tw)	Ms W Peel	56.5	94	81.00
9	93330	CUMNOCK (8) (dw)	B Nock (a1.5)	56	87	13.00
10	170	WASTED DAYS (3) (h)	J Pracey-Holmes	56	81	12.00
11	2985s	PAHANG (1) (wh)	Ms G McDonnell	55.5	91	81.00
12	s7189	INVEST IN LOVE (15) (dh)	M Stapleford (a3)	55	82	31.00
13	15356	CHELSEA AMANDA (16) (dtc)	Scratched	55		–
14	360s1	MONAZEL (11) (tw)	C Vitler (a2)	55	100	11.00
		EMERGENCIES				
15	4s969	BARCOO RIVER (4)	A Cavallo	55	81	26.00
16	80368	LADY FRAULEIN (2) (h)	Ms Z Hunt (a3)	55	78	34.00
17	00s64	PIXIE'S CHOICE (19)		55	86	81.00
18	75089	SEASONAL SPIRIT (14) (wh)		55	69	126.00
19	50074	SMART 'N' RITZY (12)		55	80	126.00

MONAZEL 1, Plenitude 2, South Bullaway 3, Speudosa 4

6 4.00 BARASTOC SUMMER SPRINT SERIES Q3

1000m. $27,000. Benchmark 58 Heat. Apprentices can claim.

1	2210s	KEEP ON GOING (1) (twh)	Ms S Ingelse (a2)	63	90	6.50
2	42778	MY ODDETTE (NZ) (9) (wh)	Ms Z Hunt (a3)	60.5	92	11.00
3	5s133	APOLLO STAR (7) (dtcb)	B Nock (a1.5)	60	91	4.80
4	33246	MIDNIGHT DREAM (10) (dtcwh)	C Gallagher	60	87	7.50
5	1736s	SIN CITY BELLE (3) (dtcwh)	C Vitler (a2)	59.5	82	19.00
6	3s1	DEVINE CHOPS (2) (dwh)	R Simpson (a)	59	90	★2.40
7	70308	TELLS TAILS (6) (dtcwh)	B Looker	58.5	81	26.00
8	1920s	BLACKHILL KITTY (8) (dh)	M Stapleford (a3)	57.5	100	41.00
9	s6455	SIMPLY BETTER (4) (dw)	J Pracey-Holmes	56.5	92	9.00
10	10166	JARMANAGIC (5) (dwh)	Ms C Hiller (a1.5)	55.5	87	81.00
11	s113s	TWYBORN AFFAIR (11)	Ms W Peel	55.5	91	23.00
12	5700s	ZARZOU (12) (w)	A Cavallo	55	79	151.00

KEEP ON GOING 1, Devine Chops 2, Tells Tails 3, Apollo Star 4

7 4.40 BARASTOC FURLONG DD2 Q4

1400m. $30,000. Benchmark 58. Apprentices can claim.

1	16669	CELTIC HARP (6) (dwh)	M Stapleford (a3)	63	84	10.00
2	14s09	THE MEDIATOR (15) (dtw)	W A Stanley (a1.5)	62.5	90	19.00
3	0s756	DREAM GAME (9) (w)	Ms S Ingelse (a2)	61	86	10.00
4	22039	RINGSIDE (5) (d)	J Pracey-Holmes	61	93	17.00
5	97070	TUPOU (4) (wh)	R Simpson (a)	60	84	19.00
6	55581	OWHATA CRUMPET (16) (bw)	A Banks	59.5	99	10.00
7	15s01	PANTS ON FIRE (18) (dtwh)	Ms C Hiller (a1.5)	59.5	92	7.50
8	77s05	ADELSUN (2) (dw)	N Heywood	59	94	★3.80
9	04s04	RIVER ROCKET (19) (wh)	B Nock (a1.5)	59	89	19.00
10	72783	WITNESS COLLECTOR (10) (dtwh)	M Heagney	58.5	91	23.00
11	62463	LINDEN TREE (8) (dtwh)	B Looker	57.5	100	19.00
12	6s686	MARYLAND BRIDGE (1) (bwh)	C Gallagher	57	87	13.00
13	51s52	DIVINE RENDEZVOUS (13) (w)	C Vitler (a2)	56.5	90	8.00
14	243s6	KALPANA (12) (wh)	Ms G McDonnell	55	100	11.00
		EMERGENCIES				
15	74s13	DUNDAS (7)	Scratched	57		–
16	82s95	SEARCHLIGHT (17) (dw)		57	90	61.00
17	379s8	JASIRI (14) (h)		55	84	126.00
18	50s57	OLLIVANDER (11) (twh)		55	89	34.00
19	607s6	COSTAS (NZ) (3) (wh)		55	88	61.00

ADELSUN 1, Pants On Fire 2, River Rocket 3, Kalpana 4

The betting odds quoted in this form guide are an assessor's estimate of the odds which will prevail on the date of the particular racing event and are not necessarily the odds that may be offered by a licensed bookmaker. This publication takes all care in compiling TAB details, but cannot accept responsibility for any errors. Readers are urged to check TAB information with the official lists before placing their bets.

TAB MUSWELLBROOK RACES

TODAY TAB CODE: CR

DAILY DOUBLE 5 & 7
EARLY QUAD 1, 2, 3, 4
TREBLE 5, 6, 7
QUADDIE 4, 5, 6, 7

1 12.35 HORSEPOWER HANDICAP EQ1

1000m. $27,000. Class 1. Apprentices can claim.

	FORM	HORSE (BARRIER)	JOCKEY	WGT	RTG	ODDS
1	23596	MYSWEETMOSES (2)	A Morgan	62	95	4.00
2	413s8	FLYING BIRDS (8)	M Bell	61	92	11.00
3	1	DIZE (7) (d)	Ms A Roper (a)	58.5	100	5.00
4	8060s	SCHWOON (4) (dw)	Mr R Rivett Prg (a3)	58	89	13.00
5	044s0	SIPPITY SIP (6) (dw)	G Buckley	58	94	7.00
6	4s517	SNITZAROO (5) (d)	A Bullock	58	100	★3.50
7	726s6	MARAMOTI (NZ) (9)	B Osmond (a2)	56	88	13.00
8	13s33	STORM'S END (10) (wb)	Ms J Duggan	56	93	7.00
9	17980	CATCH ME OUT (3) (t)	D Mc Lellan	55	78	51.00
10	810s6	SNOW STAR (1)	Matthew Palmer	55	85	34.00

SNITZAROO 1, Mysweetmoses 2, Dize 3, Sippity Sip 4

2 1.10 TAB SUMMER SIZZLER EQ2

1000m. $27,000. Open. Apprentices can claim.

1	53147	OUTREACH TO HENRY (2) (dw)	A Gibbons	61	96	★2.50
2	5s149	SHARKIM (9) (dw)		60	88	9.00
3	4s163	CUSTO (4) (dtcwb)	M Bell	59.5	98	3.00
4	s4074	GIDGEE GUY (6) (dtcw)	G Buckley	59.5	91	7.00
5	43665	I'M NOT SLEW (7) (dtc)	R Jones	58.5	100	9.00
6	5631s	SECRET SPY (1)	A Bullock	58	99	13.00
7	1707s	POWDERFINGER (5) (w)	A Morgan	55	93	17.00
8	21546	NOSEY (3) (dtcw)	Ms A Roper (a)	55	85	26.00
9	7490s	SILICA SAND (8) (w)	B Osmond (a2)	55	75	34.00

OUTREACH TO HENRY 1, Custo 2, Gidgee Guy 3, Sharkim 4

3 1.45 BENGALLA PLATE EQ3

1450m. $30,000. Maiden SW. Apprentices can claim.

1	987s8	DEIFIC (2)	Mr M Fitzgerald (a2)	59	81	101.00
2	09905	GOLDEN RIVER GIFT (7)	Mr R Rivett Prg (a3)	59	86	51.00
3	59840	MASTER TYLER (NZ) (9)		59	83	51.00
4	24s52	MEDINAH (6) (b)	A Bullock	59	100	★2.25
5	596s7	SELVAM (10)	Matthew Palmer	59	80	41.00
6	0	JAMESY (4)	Ms M Weir	57.5	90	21.00
7	45s56	JUST BREATHE (1)	K Jennings	57	90	17.00
8	6s672	ULTIMATE REIGN (8) (hb)	J Van Overmeire	57	92	11.00
9	00s75	EMPRESS OF MILAN (5)	A Morgan	55.5	82	21.00
10	3	IMAGE OF THE SUN (11)	G Buckley	55.5	93	2.50
11	575s6	M'LADY'S LUCK (3) (h)	Ms A Roper (a)	55.5	94	9.00

MEDINAH 1, Image

Kick in teeth for Giga's chance to gain revenge

Michael Dee riding Imperatriz to victory over Rothfire and Giga Kick in the Mittys Mcewen Stakes at The Valley last September; and (below) star sprinter Giga Kick and his trainer Clayton Douglas. Pictures: Getty Images, Ben Dorries

Ben Dorries

Clayton Douglas says the Giga Kick camp is "dying for a rematch" with star mare Imperatriz, but revealed his champion sprinter has so far been unable to return to trackwork with his "strange injury."

The 2022 Everest winner had been meant to be back in work by now, but Douglas said he remained confined to light walking exercises on the treadmill.

A crucial medical scan in the next two weeks will determine the immediate racing future of the freak sprinter who suffered injury when finishing third behind Imperatriz in a controversial run which derailed Giga Kick's 2023 spring.

"He's on the treadmill, he's only doing light work until we get his next scan," Douglas revealed.

"We were hoping the initial scan was going to be OK and he could resume trackwork, but the injury hadn't quite healed like we would have liked. We are in a holding pattern at the moment. We are on the back foot so far."

Douglas said it was possible Giga Kick could miss the entire autumn carnival and then return for the Brisbane winter to springboard into a spring tilt which would include an Everest mission.

But he is still not ruling out the autumn carnival, even though he knows Giga Kick is in a race against time with a deep-seated muscle injury to his hindquarters.

"We are dying for a rematch with Imperatriz at some point," Douglas said. "But it is possible the scans could come back and Giga Kick still won't quite be ready.

"If we were having this discussion in two or three weeks' time, we would definitely know what we are doing.

"But I am sitting on the fence at the moment.

"It's an injury that we can't physically see.

"He's injured muscle off his third trochanter bone, which is a strange and unique injury.

"We are just hoping that his next scan is fine and he can resume training at the start of February."

Douglas said the medical advice was that the injury would not stop Giga Kick returning to his brilliant best and it was simply a case of giving the crack sprinter time to heal.

Fighter huge Cox Plate fan

Jett Hatton

If you ask UFC fighter Jack Jenkins to choose between the Melbourne Cup and The Everest, he's choosing the latter but thinks the Cox Plate trumps both.

A rising star in the featherweight division, Jenkins is an avid Melbourne racing fan and thinks The Valley's weight-for-age championship is the pinnacle of the sport.

"I'd have to say The Everest over the Melbourne Cup," Jenkins said.

Jack Jenkins.

"But if you ask me the Cox Plate versus The Everest, I'll take the Cox Plate every day.

"It's the best middle distance horses going against each other at weight-for-age and around The Valley just makes it even more special.

"You're on top of it and I've got great memories there. I hope they keep that spirit with the redevelopment."

While choosing The Valley as his favourite course and Cox Plate as Australia's premier race, Jenkins admits the 2021 edition would have been entirely different had Zaaki been there.

Annabel Neasham's star galloper had to be withdrawn from the race due to an elevated temperature.

State Of Rest and Anamoe would fight it out in a controversial finish but Jenkins thinks Zaaki would have gave them windburn.

"There's heaps of 'woulda, coulda shoulda's' in racing but the year Anamoe and State Of Rest fought it out in the Cox Plate, he would have absolutely brained them," Jenkins said.

"Just the way he used to bury horses at the 300 (metres) at his peak, they wouldn't have caught him. He just can't bury them like he used to but he's got to be one of the favourite horses of all time."

As for when Jenkins is looking for a return to the octagon, he's aiming to get on the UFC 300 card in April but if not, he hopes to be on a fight night just before or after.

"I'm back hopefully on April 18 on UFC 300 or a card one fight in front or behind that," Jenkins said.

Sun of a gun set to make surprise Singapore move

Trenton Akers

Jaden Lloyd will make a bucket list trip to Singapore to fill a spot on their jockey roster prior to racing in the jurisdiction shutting down later this year.

The Queensland-based son of a gun will look to follow in his famous father Jeff's footsteps by winning the Group 1 Gold Cup later this year on Kranji's final day of racing.

While many are fleeing racing in Singapore, Lloyd said it presented a huge opportunity to ride there before it shut downs.

"The prizemoney has increased for the final year, it's actually very good prizemoney and everyone knows it is shutting down, but it's good to have on the resume," he said.

"I have always wanted to go up there and ride and I was running out of time, so I thought it was a good decision to get away from everything here for a bit and try my luck in Singapore.

"A couple of jockeys have already left, so they were looking for riders, hopefully that presents a few opportunities.

"There are some really good ones up there still like Vlad Duric, I just want to go up there and work hard."

Jeff Lloyd won the Gold Cup at Singapore in 2006 as part of a successful stint in the city and Jaden says he is keen to win the last edition of the race.

He will make the move there next month.

"I go on a holiday for two weeks and then my first meeting there is in three weeks, I'm really looking forward to it," Lloyd said.

"Dad won the Gold Cup up there, their biggest race, but he was there for about two years, so he has given me some advice.

"I want to go over there and ride for everyone, I'm not linked to one in particular.

"They have upped everything for the final year, they only race once a week but the money has to be good."

After 180 years of racing in Singapore, Kranji will be knocked down to make way for public housing, with the final meeting to be run on October 4.

Jockey Jaden Lloyd.

Marsh ends his innings

Daniel Cherny

Shaun Marsh feels a sense of relief and sadness as he retires from professional cricket after almost a quarter of a century.

The West Australian great announced on Sunday that the Big Bash League match between his Melbourne Renegades and the Sydney Thunder on Wednesday night would be the last of a career that started some 23 summers ago.

Marsh, 40, played the last of his 38 Tests and 73 one-day internationals in 2019.

Shaun Marsh.

He kept playing domestically for WA before retiring at the end of last season.

Marsh continued into this BBL season with the Renegades after he moved from the Perth Scorchers in 2019.

Having overcome calf issues, his form has not diminished.

The left-hander has posted three half-centuries from five innings this season, including an unbeaten 64 to lead the Renegades to victory against the Melbourne Stars on Saturday night at Marvel Stadium.

However, the Renegades' underwhelming season has contributed to Marsh's decision, which he made last week, to pull up stumps on his decorated career.

"I probably knew at the start of the season that it was more than likely going to be my last year but there was no sort of decision made up until probably after our second-last game ago," Marsh said.

"We had a nine-day break and went home with the family and just felt right then that this was going to be it.

"It's probably a sense of relief but also some sadness knowing that it's all over – sort of leave knowing that you gave everything and it's the right time to walk away."

Though his Australian career was a mixed bag, he was proud to have reached the highest level and said he could now fully appreciate how special it had been to play international cricket with his brother.

Asked how he would like to be remembered as a player, Marsh was reflective.

"I think just being a good person," he said. "I've always just tried to be myself."

Mitch sees Cam shaft

Johnson opposes Smith promotion, smells vendetta

Robert Craddock

Mitchell Johnson has questioned Steve Smith's promotion to opener and says selectors deserved to be asked whether Cameron Bancroft was the victim of a vendetta.

The snubbing of Bancroft has triggered a "Sandgropergate" scandal in Perth.

Locals are furious that their opener has missed a berth in the Test side to face the West Indies in Adelaide.

In his weekly column for Perth's Sunday Times published on The West Australian's website, Johnson said Smith had "long been the

Cameron Bancroft

Steve Smith

glue" of Australia's top order at No.4 and he could not understand the logic for changing things.

"You can't help but wonder why (selection chairman) George Bailey and the selection panel have gone this way," Johnson wrote.

"Do they feel Smith hasn't been at his best and they think this could be a good change for him?

"There are reports that Smithy doesn't like sitting around waiting to bat but he has done that most of his career at fourth in the order – and he's been pretty good at it.

"Is it purely to fit Cam Green back in and give him a shot at No.4? I'm not a big fan of this way. You always want your best players at third and fourth in the order. It's a really interesting way of selection and anything could happen."

Bailey, who fell out with Johnson this season following the former Test quick's comments that Bailey was too close to the players, denied at his press conference that the panel or any player had any lingering bad vibes towards Bancroft following his fallout with the bowlers for comments he made about the Sandpapergate scandal.

"Bailey says there is no issue or vendetta but you can't blame Bancroft – or the public – for questioning this, if he is claiming the selection panel didn't consider the specialist opener among the nation's seven-best batters.

"It's obviously a confusing message for the West Australian, who has scored the most runs out of all those openers considered and done it over the past couple of years, so any questions around this are fair."

West Indies' bowler Kemar Roach during the second Test against England at Old Trafford in Manchester. Picture: AFP

COACH'S PLEA TO SAVE TEST CRICKET

Daniel Cherny

West Indies coach Andre Coley has called on cricket's leadership to put up or shut up when it comes to saving the Test format globally, while floating the idea of four-day Tests in a bid to make it more appetising to players.

The Windies have been widely written off for the Frank Worrell Trophy series, which begins in Adelaide on Wednesday. Having not beaten in Australia in a Test series in more than three decades, and not even won a Test against the Aussies in more than 20 years, the Windies have picked a squad that contains seven uncapped players.

Former captain Jason Holder and all-rounder Kyle Mayers have opted out of the series to prioritise franchise commitments elsewhere.

Such is life for the former Test powerhouse.

The region can still produce world-class cricketers but can't pay them enough to always choose Test cricket. It is not a new phenomenon for the Windies.

But they may merely have been the canary in the coalmine for the format given South Africa has named a massively depleted squad to tour New Zealand this month after its board told stars to put the Indian-backed SA20 competition first.

Australian cricket leaders have discussed the idea of setting up a global funding pool to ensure Test cricket remains viable for more than just a handful of nations.

Coley said talk was one thing but actions were another. "If we have enough powerbrokers around world cricket who are keen on ensuring that Test cricket continues to be played and becomes a viable option for players, young players, then those people have to voice those opinions and in the lobbies and rooms that can make those decisions," Coley said.

"It comes down to the people who make the decisions around who can influence decisions."

Finch and Warner to rekindle partnership

Ben Horne

Aaron Finch recently sat beside Mick Jagger but the words Start Me Up will have a different connotation on Monday night.

Rock 'n' roll royalty will be replaced by kings of cricket in the Fox Cricket commentary box on Monday night at the MCG when Finch rekindles his long-term partnership with David Warner.

The dynamic duo opened the batting in 119 innings together for Australia and the success they had as an ODI pairing is eclipsed only by Adam Gilchrist and Matthew Hayden.

Finch walked into a Kolkata restaurant during the World Cup in India to discover Rolling Stones maestro Jagger sitting at the table next to he and fellow Fox Cricket commentator Mark Howard.

After some encouragement from Howard, Finch plucked up the courage to go over and introduce himself to massive cricket fan and legendary frontman Jagger.

He won't need to dig quite as deep to start a new connection with Warner, who he has known since he was about 14 years of age.

"Hopefully you hear that stuff and you can ask them questions about when they first met each other and when they first played," Howard said before Warner and Finch make their off-field opening debut in the call of the Melbourne Stars versus Hobart Hurricanes match at the MCG.

"They will be forthright, which is fantastic.

"I think they can bring unbelievable insight because every batter and bowler out there they have played against, which is outstanding."

Teammates turned co-commentators Aaron Finch and David Warner.

Defender Jordan Bos shoots on goal during the Socceroos Asian Cup Group B match against India, at Ahmad bin Ali Stadium, in Qatar. Picture: AFP

Socceroos show plucky India who's the Bos

Marco Monteverde

Jordan Bos's elation at scoring his first goal for the Socceroos has been tempered by national coach Graham Arnold admitting Australia has a "lot" to improve on to have any chance of winning the Asian Cup.

The Socceroos' opened their Cup campaign in Qatar with a 2-0 win over India, and while securing three points was the ultimate objective, they struggled for large periods to break down their dogged rivals.

It took 50 minutes for the Socceroos to take the lead, through Jackson Irvine, of German Bundesliga club FC St Pauli star, before former Melbourne City prodigy Bos scored with his first touch of the game 23 minutes later after coming on as a substitute.

Socceroos manager Graham Arnold looks on during their Asian Cup opener.

"It was amazing," said 21-year-old Bos, who plays for Belgian club K.V.C. Westerlo.

"It was my first Socceroos goal. I was hoping for the opportunity to get on and it just fell to me first touch so I couldn't have asked for a better start. In the second half, we got the goals we deserved.

"I'll try not to dwell on it too much. To be honest, I feel like everything that I do in football, it just happens.

"And then maybe later in life, I'll reflect a bit more. But right now I'm just taking it in my stride."

However, Arnold expected more from his side, particularly in the first half when the Socceroos were sluggish in attack despite dominating possession.

"I can honestly say that we've got to improve a lot more than that," he said. "One disappointment was our set pieces because we work quite a lot on them.

"We're usually very strong with set pieces, but you've got to give credit to India for the way they set up themselves for those set pieces.

"That's something we need to improve on, and we will."

Arnold preached patience at halftime and admitted his team was perhaps too "excited" before the match in anticipation of the start of the tournament.

"There was a little bit of excitement and impatience," he said.

"We'd been waiting for the last 10 days to get preparations right.

"The messaging at halftime from me was just be patient and it will come. That's one game down and another six to go.

"We're here to win the Asian Cup, and you have to reach for the stars.

"You have to have high expectations and put those expectations back on the boys and get them to believe in what we can do."

Bos was confident that the Socceroos – who return to Group B action on Thursday night (AEDT) against Syria at Jassim bin Hamad Stadium – could go "all the way".

Coach's tactics 'will give success'

Erin Smith

Matildas midfielder Tameka Yallop says the tactics which earned Tony Gustavsson plenty of criticism will be what gets the national team over the line against Uzbekistan without goal scoring hero Sam Kerr.

As Kerr posted the first photo of herself post-surgery on Instagram, showing the thumbs up to her 1.8 million followers with her right leg in a compression bandage, the Matildas continue to plot ways to ensure they not only qualify for the 2024 Paris Olympics but reach their goal of bringing home a medal.

Yallop, talking after the Brisbane Roar lost to Newcastle 2-1 on Saturday night, said their depth would be key at the upcoming Olympic Qualifiers.

Depth was something Gustavsson has worked hard to build since taking over the squad in September 2020.

His efforts to do so, which included playing very inexperienced players against top class teams like Spain and Canada, didn't always get a great reaction from fans or pundits.

Especially when the scoreline blew out to a 7-0 loss.

But it was those matches that allowed Gustavsson to find rising stars Charli Grant, who just signed a contract with WSL club Tottenham, Kyra Cooney-Cross who now plays for Arsenal and see that Australia's under-23s captain Amy Sayer is certainly up to the task of playing senior football.

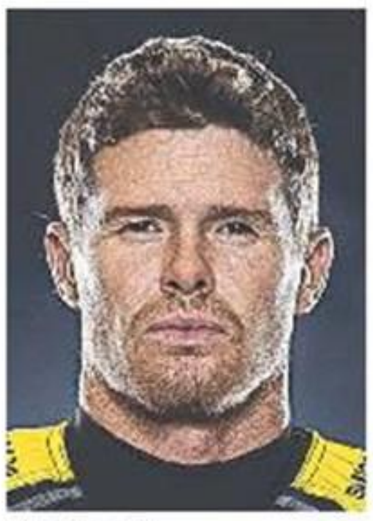
Yallop said with Kerr ruled out of the qualifiers with an ACL injury and incredibly unlikely to play at the Olympics should the Matildas qualify – having the depth in the squad had the team confident they could deliver good results.

"It's tough for Sam and all the girls are rallying around her, it's such a major injury and for it to happen to anyone is devastating," Yallop said.

"We're all here for Sam and she knows that."

The Matildas will take on Uzbekistan for the final leg of the Olympic Qualifiers on February 24 and then in front of a home crowd on February 28.

"We've worked hard, especially since TG came in to grow depth within our squad and we can get results without Sam," Yallop said.



Tom Slingsby.

SailGP skipper Slingsby's youthful taunt backfires

Amanda Lulham

If he could Australian skipper Tom Slingsby might want to take back his challenge to the young guns of the SailGP series after a forgettable opening day in Abu Dhabi for he and his team and some surprise results by rivals.

While the series-leading Australian team managed just one podium in the three races in ultralight conditions, young Spanish Olympic sailor Diego Botin put together back-to-back wins after a first race 10th.

It was a result which left the Spaniard leading the event heading into the final day and 2012 Olympic Laser gold medallist Slingsby and his team unexpectedly languishing back in the second half of the fleet in sixth place.

Just a day earlier Slingsby – almost a decade older than Botin – challenged the younger skippers of the series to make their mark after two of the oldest but most successful, James Spithill and Ben Ainslie, stepped down from the racing

"To be frankly honest, I think a lot of the younger generation haven't stepped up to the plate as much as they could have and they've got to prove it," Spithill said when asked about a potential changing of the guard.

"Jimmy and Ben are in their mid 40s and were still winning SailGP events consistently and most of the new, young generation driving in our league haven't won an event in SailGP.'

"When you're the next generation, you've got to prove why you're the best in the world and knock us old guys off the perch.

"The new guys have the opportunity, they're out there and have a boat to drive in SailGP, the top sailing league in the world, and they've got to take that opportunity with both hands or they'll be replaced."

Botin appears to have taken Slingsby's words to heart and now leads heading into day two.

The Australian recorded a 2-9-6 scorecard and need a big performance on day two to make the three-boat final.

Slingsby and his team went into Abu Dhabi ahead by 11 points on the overall pointscore.

Luai is eyeing return

Panthers star Jarome Luai is aiming to play in next month's World Club Challenge against Wigan after undergoing shoulder surgery in October.

Luai left the grand final win against the Broncos in the second half after suffering a shoulder injury, and went under the knife soon after.

Luai's name has been in the headlines quite a bit this off-season with the polarising playmaker to join the Tigers on a five-year deal from 2025.

Panthers star Jarome Luai.

Penrith fullback Dylan Edwards says Luai is "training very well" and hopes his teammates final season at the club is a successful one.

"I'm not sure of the exact time line, but he is training very well, doing a lot of rehab and working really hard, so he is going to give himself every chance," Edwards said at a Panthers fan day on Saturday.

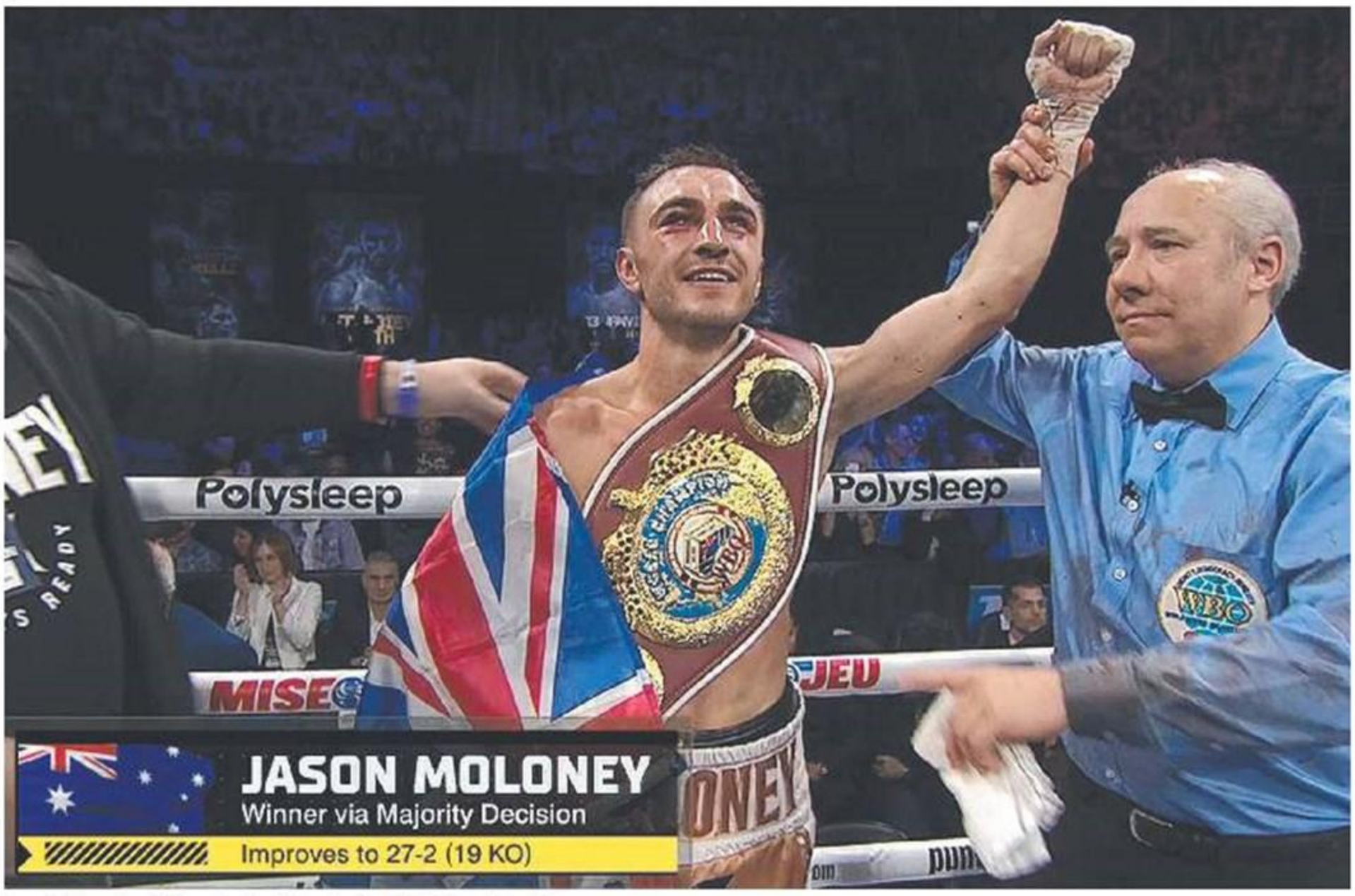
"We would love to send him off on a high note. He is still one of our brothers and he is going to compete as hard as he can this year, so hopefully send him off as a winner."

The Panthers are no strangers to seeing teammates head to other clubs as Penrith's success means they often fall victim to the salary cap crunch.

Last year's Rookie of the Year winner Sunia Turuva understands Luai's decision and believes the five-eighth's impending departure won't be an impact on the team as they strive for a fourth-straight premiership.

"He has still been his loud self and been the pest he is. I personally haven't seen anything different from Jarome this year," Turuva said.

"The boys would love that for him, we just gotta try and make sure we finish on a good note for him, like we did for Spenny (Spencer Leniu), Critta (Stephen Crichton) and Cogs (Jack Cogger)."



Jason Moloney has his hands raised after downing Mexico's Saul Sanchez.

Aussie's epic title win

Moloney hangs on to his belt after outlasting Sanchez

Nick Walshaw

Jason Moloney returned to his corner after 10 rounds of brutality knowing the scores were likely tied and his right eye, again, was filled with blood.

"And that," he recounts, "is when I told myself 'this where you're best work is done ... go show how badly you want this."

And guess what?

While it may have taken him three attempts to win a world title, Australia's WBO bantamweight king needed only one defence to prove himself a champion in every sense.

Better, the gutsy 32-year-old will now demand a blockbuster world title unification Down Under after retaining his strap in a bloody war against Mexico's Saul Sanchez.

Defending gold for the first time in a massive Top Rank card in Quebec City, Canada, Moloney fought for almost 30 minutes with a large gash over his right eye to eventually claim a gutsy majority decision — 116-112, 116-112, 114-114.

Apart from being an incredibly early contender for 'Australia Fight of the Year', it also came on a night where countryman Rohan Murdock also proved himself all heart before being stopped after six rounds against unbeaten Canadian super middleweight star Christian Mbilli.

According to CompuBox, Mbilli hit Murdock with a staggering 190 power punches through six rounds – and at one point, knocked his mouthguard out and into the crowd – before the Aussie's team called it off.

In the main event, light heavyweight champ Artur Beterbiev also retained his titles with a seventh-round stoppage of Englishman Callum Smith.

Yet the Moloney win?

Well, after walking out to Land Down Under, and with twin brother Andrew holding his title aloft, he then went headlong into an absolute slobberknocker.

So close was the result, ESPN commentator Mark Kriegel scored the championship bout a draw, while Moloney also thought it was likely even going into the championship rounds.

The win will now see the WBO champ chase a blockbuster unification bout with IBF superstar Emmanuel Rodriguez – the fighter who, ironically, beat him via a contentious split decision five years ago.

Speaking with Fox Sports Australia immediately after the win, a "spent" Moloney revealed it had been the championship rounds that had got him home against Sanchez.

'Mayhem' also revealed the words he could be seen mouthing to himself as the scorecards were being read aloud.

"I was just saying 'please ... please ... and still," he said.

The Aussie also opened up on what was eight rounds battling a nasty head cut — which came in the third following an accidental head clash with Sanchez.

"The team did a great job with the cut but the blood, it was going into my eye," Moloney said.

"There were a few head clashes throughout the fight – it was a brutal war – and you just have to deal with everything as best as you can.

"But it was hard."

Chiefs run hot in freezing game

Daniel Nuttall

The Kansas City Chiefs have easily accounted for a disappointing Miami Dolphins outfit 26-7 in freezing cold conditions at Arrowhead Stadium.

The Chiefs flew out of the gates with a touchdown on the first drive and never gave up the lead, with running back Isiah Pacheco enjoying the weather, galloping for 89 hard-earned yards.

Chiefs kicker Harrison Butker is regarded as one of the league's best at the position, and he showed his worth in tough condition, converting all four field goal attempts. In strange scenes, QB Patrick Mahomes had to change his helmet in the third quarter after his original one shattered after a hard hit near the goal-line.

Patrick Mahomes.

Earlier, Mahomes found rookie WR Rashee Rice for an 11-yard touchdown to open the scoring and thanks to some hard running from Pacheco, got the upper hand early.

The Dolphins didn't do a whole lot on offence, but one rare moment was QB Tua Tagovailoa finding star WR Tyreek Hill for a 53 yard touchdown at the start of the second quarter.

It was Hill's first game back at Arrowhead Stadium since leaving the Chiefs for the Dolphins after spending the first six seasons in Kansas City.

The Chiefs would then kick three straight field goals to increase the lead to 12, before Pacheco put the final nail in the coffin with a three-yard TD run with 11 minutes left in the fourth quarter.

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Steve Smith

Opener bid was no joke: Smith

Daniel Cherny

Steve Smith says Australian selectors thought he was joking when he first canvassed the idea of replacing David Warner as Test opener.

Smith said on Sunday that he had floated the idea as early as during last year's Ashes tour but that it wasn't until the start of this year that the idea of him moving alongside Usman Khawaja started to grow serious legs.

Asked if he thought the selectors had taken him seriously when he raised the prospect of an elevation to the top of the order, Smith said: "Not really."

"I've been pushing it for a few weeks, even before Perth I think, and I might have been floated in England just randomly and said 'I'll get up top and I'm happy to play up top'.

"In Perth, I kind of said 'You know after Davey's done I'm actually keen to get up there'.

"I don't think they sort of took me seriously until I got to Sydney and I was like 'I'm actually being genuine here. I'd be keen to get up top and face the new ball'. And they were like, 'All right, well, we'll take that under advisement and see how it all looks'.

"You know, I think they are very keen to get Cameron (Green) in the side as well, I think, and sort of play our best six batters. For me, it didn't sort of sit right having him come in and bat up top.

"I've played for a long time and I'm an experienced player and I think it's something that I should have done."

While Smith said the captaincy had contributed to him dropping down the order, filling in for Pat Cummins on occasion would not require him to revert to No.4.

Rain wreaks havoc but no shortage of

PLENTY OF ACTION AS COMP RETURNS

Jake Garland

An outright win, a nailbiter and an abandoned match, all in the first round back for Coast cricket.

With the one-day final locked in, Cricket Gold Coast moved to two-day cricket after the three-week break over Christmas and new years and it was welcomed back in the most dramatic fashion.

Across the six senior grades that were meant to walk out on Saturday January 13, eight games didn't go ahead.

Helensvale and Mudgeeraba in premier first grade was abandoned earlier in the week after it was revealed that fire ants had been found on Hession Oval.

The other seven were abandoned due to the rain that ravaged the Coast early Saturday morning and throughout the week.

WE LOOK BELOW AT THE FOUR PREMIER FIRST GRADE GAMES WITH A RESULT.

Burleigh CC 9-200 def Runaway Bay 10-174

Runaway Bay started day two at 9-160, with ***Sam Topping*** on 73 and went on to add 11 more to his overnight score before being the last wicket to fall.

Burleigh lost their first wicket in the second over and the confidence for the Bay was full but a 43-run partnership between ***Jeffrey Roslin*** (16 from 75) and ***Jasper Schoenmaker*** (55 from 129) helped Burleigh back into the box seat.

The Bay then flipped the script, taking 4-47 to leave Burleigh at 6-108 and on the back foot.

Hayden Brain and ***Connor Reen*** got together to get their side over the line with Brain scoring 60 from 75 balls in the 67-run partnership.

Travis Harker was the pick of the bowlers for Runaway Bay with 3-31 from 19 overs.

Queens 10-210 def Coomera Hope Island 10-100 and 5-138

Coomera started day two on 1-2 after losing ***Jackson Armstrong*** late on day one and day two didn't start any better with ***Michael Daffy*** also being removed for a duck to leave Coomera 2-10.

Wickets then fell in quick succession after, with Coomera losing 7-80 with opener ***Decklin Ross*** showing real fight, top scored with 44 from 127 balls.

Being sent back in, Coomera looked to ensure they didn't get beaten outright.

It didn't start well in the second innings for Coomera as they dropped to 3-25 early before vice-captain ***Darren Collins*** (49 off 34 balls) and captain ***Jared Spies*** (22 off 72 balls) stood up for a 64 run partnership.

Spies was dismissed, leaving Coomera at 5-91 with ***Decklin Ross*** (31 not out from 35 balls) and ***James Kleinschmidt*** (17 not out from 23 balls) carrying

Bushmen guns in rep side

Mudgeeraba Nerang and Districts Cricket Club will lose four gun players for the National Cricket Inclusion Carnival in Brisbane.

Luke Trudgett, Michael Blight, Nick Mahoney and Liam Prineas have all been selected to represent Queensland when the carnival kicks off on Saturday.

Queensland has named 18-year-old Mahoney as captain while Prineas has been named vice-captain, taking over from Trudgett as they look to develop the younger brigade of cricketers. The four players have played between second and third grade for Mudgeeraba this season.

Mahoney played second grade this year and leads the way with the bat against the other state teams.

All games are at Marchant Park from Saturday until Thursday.

Kevin De Bruyne.

De Bruyne inspires comeback

Pep Guardiola said Manchester City showed the heart of champions to fight back to beat Newcastle 3-2 on Sunday thanks to a Kevin De Bruyne masterclass on his return to Premier League action.

The Belgian came off the bench to score and set up Oscar Bobb's stoppage-time winner to announce his comeback from a five-month injury layoff in style. Victory takes City up to second in the table, two points behind Liverpool, and ominously poised to strike when they return from a two-week winter break, by which point Erling Haaland may be fit to join De Bruyne in terrorising opposition defences.

"That was really good, sometimes it is better winning that way," said Guardiola. "We played with a huge personality. They showed me they want to fight until the end that they want to retain the title."

A cruel late twist for Newcastle saw Eddie Howe's men succumb to a sixth defeat in their last seven Premier League games.

But a point would have been more than Newcastle deserved after being outplayed but for two goals in two first-half minutes that threatened to frustrate the champions.

"Their quality told in the end. De Bruyne is a world-class player," said Howe.

on-field drama across Coast's cricket

CLOCKWISE FROM MAIN: Skipper Claye Beams returned to boost Surfers Paradise; Burleigh batsman Connor Reen plays a forward defensive stroke against Runaway Bay; Southport's Josh Blatt is bowled; Burleigh's Jasper Schoenmaker plays a shot.
Pictures: Scott Powick, Richard Gosling

their team to the end of the day.

Harrison Winton did the damage with the ball in the first innings for Queens, picking up 4-34 from 19 overs, with ***Jackson Winton*** also picking up 3-29 from 23.1 overs. In the second innings, five bowlers picked up one wicket each.

Surfers Paradise 5-276d def Alberton 10-113 and 9-153

The Demons had already won on the first day, starting day two on 3-164, 51 runs ahead of Alberton.

Harold Jones continued from day one to bring a run-a-ball 107, combining with ***Jackson Driscoll*** (28 from 52) for a 77-run partnership.

Surfers Paradise welcomed back skipper ***Claye Beams*** who spent the week in Newcastle for the National Country Cricket Carnival.

Beams continued on his form, taking it to the bowlers with a quickfire 40 not out from 15 balls before declaring 163 runs ahead.

Alberton looked to return fire to the Surfers' bowlers, quickly getting to 40 for the opening partnership before ***Michael Waldren*** claimed the first six wickets of the second innings. Skipper ***Reece Neyland*** did everything he could to avoid the outright loss, spending valuable time at the crease and top scoring with 51 not out from 111 balls. Waldren finished with 6-28 from 14 overs in the second innings.

Broadbeach Robina 10-141 def Southport 10-137

Day two began with one of the best catches of the season on the Coast.

Opener ***Joel Smith*** advanced down the pitch to ***Geeth Silva***, getting an inside edge to forward square leg who ended up diving to his left, catching it one handed to leave Southport at 1-3 inside the first over.

From there, wickets fell in patches and clumps together, with the biggest partnership of 41 coming in the fifth wicket between ***Jarrod Leathem*** (24 from 78 balls) and ***Ryan Thorpe*** (42 from 53 balls).

Thorpe top scored for Southport, with ***Dhanushka Mitipolaarachchi*** also showing support with 23 from 35.

Sitting at 7-133, with just nine to win, Broadbeach took the last three wickets for just four runs, with the final wicket taken by Silva to claim 5-42 from 16.5 overs. ***Jaden Davis*** claimed 3-20 from 10 overs.

Helensvale 10-140 v Mudgeeraba 0-31

Match abandoned due to fire ants at Hession Oval.

ROUND 15 PREVIEW

Queens v Alberton at Arthur Angove Park, Southport v Palm Beach at Golden Wheel Park, Coomera Hope Island v Surfers Paradise at Oxenford Oval, Burleigh v Helensvale at Liberty Finance Oval, Runaway Bay v Mudgeeraba at Sam Loxton Oval 1, Broadbeach Robina have the bye

Gigante triumph for gutsy Aussie

Australian cyclist Sarah Gigante overpowered her rivals with a strong hill assault to claim a dominant final stage win on Sunday, carrying off the women's Tour Down Under title.

The AG Insurance-Soudal rider surged to overall victory after powering away from the field during a punishing 3km summit finish in the event's third and final stage.

Gigante won the 93.4km stage by 16 seconds, followed by Dutch rider Nienke Vinke in second and fellow Australian Neve Bradbury in third.

An emotional Gigante, 23, paid tribute to her new team after switching from Movistar before the start of the World-Tour season.

"To come back full circle and with my new team and they believe in me so much, I'm just so grateful to everyone who kept believing in me. It's so special," Gigante said.

Her victory came despite struggling for position within the peloton in blustery conditions during the stage from Adelaide to Willunga Hill.

"It was really difficult. My team was so amazing," Gigante said.

"I burnt so many of their matches and a few of mine, but they kept believing in me.

"It's our first tour as a World-Tour team. Ally (Wollaston) won the first stage, I won the last stage and together we all won the ochre jersey.

"It's just crazy.

"I'm just so happy to get a win.

"It's pretty tough when you're only 23 and lots of people think you're washed up, and sometimes I did too.

"It was just so hard to keep believing in myself but I did and AG Insurance-Soudal did too."

Gigante left some notable climbers struggling in her wake as she attacked the famed Willunga Hill, which has an average gradient of 7.4 per cent.

Three-time Tour Down Under winner Amanda Spratt trailed 27 seconds behind to finish fourth overall, while overnight leader Cecilie Uttrup Ludwig of Denmark was a spent force halfway up the summit.

Uttrup Ludwig ultimately finished in 14th, just over a minute behind the winner.

Brisbane's Mitch Norton.

Bullets goes ballistic to eye unlikely play-offs berth

Gyan Reece-Rocha

A fourth straight win has given the resurgent Brisbane Bullets a hunger for play-offs in the National Basketball League after they plucked the Illawarra Hawks 110-103.

A Sunday full house of 5000 fans at Brisbane's Nissan Arena roared their approval for a team which has risen from ninth to fourth at full-time on the back of resilience and expanded threats in their close-knit team.

The Hawks were always playing catch-up or mess-up, except for brief leads early in the second quarter.

No one at the start of this season was predicting game-winning bursts from guard Mitch Norton or centre Tyrell Harrison but they were stars.

Norton stroked two key three-pointers in the third quarter to build a 10-point buffer (88-78) as features of a calm 18-point game built around 5-8 shooting.

Harrison was superb for 32 minutes.

He made three fine drives to the hoop for buckets in traffic en route to 18 points, worked hard for his seven rebounds, blocked three shots and was the best big man on court.

"It means everything these wins and having the fans out supporting us. From previous years, it shows the change of culture and how hard the team is working," Harrison said.

SUSTAIN THE RAGE

The Bullets play four of their final six regular season games on the road so they have to sustain the rage to keep their high position for the Play-In Tournament (for teams finishing third to sixth).

At 11-11, the Bullets still have plenty of heat coming from Tasmania JackJumpers (11-11), Sydney Kings, Cairns Taipans (10-12) and Hawks (9-10), who can all flip the script.

The Bullets are the great find-a-way comeback story of this season.

They've won when Aron Baynes was suspended, they've won with a Chris Smith three-pointer when scoring ace Nathan Sobey was injured and scrapped to stay in tight games with much-improved defence.

Top teen making waves of her own on the world stage

Jake Garland

One of Australia's most promising young surfers has started her own legacy by becoming the 2023 World Junior Champion.

Sierra Kerr, 16, competed in the World Junior Championships in California against the best young surfers in the world.

Kerr lined up against the United States' Zoe Benedetto in the final on Saturday and put on a surfing masterclass with a near-perfect nine out of 10 points to win.

"That was the craziest heat, it's amazing to win," Kerr said.

"I feel like I haven't been surfing that good this contest and I went into the final just going to leave nothing on the table.

"I felt like I actually surfed good, so I was frothing.

"I wasn't even expecting to qualify for the Challenger Series.

Josh Kerr in action during his career. Picture: Adam Head

"I forgot that was a thing, that's insane.

"Thank you to everyone who came and watched, and everyone that's watching."

Sierra is the daughter of aerial pioneer and longtime Australia CT surfer Josh Kerr. The victory was Kerr's maiden world junior title and earnt her a place in the 2024 Challenger Series.

In 2022, Kerr established herself as a competitive threat with an appearance in the semi-finals and she continues to push the boundaries in progressive surfing.

Kerr backed up that effort with a title win in the 2023 Australia/Oceania Pro Regional.

She then showcased more progression with a flawless run in Oceanside heading into the final after a 16.17 heat total out of a possible 20 to defeat the USA's Talia Swindal.

Kerr is now preparing for a big year ahead among the Challenger Series contenders and has the opportunity to qualify for the 2025 Championship Tour.

The future star took out the gold at the 2023 ISA World Junior Surfing championships in Rio de Janeiro when she beat USA pair Eden Walla and Lanea Mons in the under-16s.

Winning her maiden World Junior Championship topped off her 2023 as she looks to take the next big step this year.

Sierra Kerr after winning the Sambazon World Junior Championships.

Bevilacqua back in winner's circle

Amanda Lulham

When Matt Bevilacqua was a 13-year-old nipper he was so small and slow he nearly drowned while competing at an interstate surf life saving competition at Maroubra Beach.

Now 18 years on, the kid who told his dad that same day he would get "heaps better" won his second round of the Nutri-Grain ironman series in 24 hours on the same beach – the stage for a mass rescue soon after when around 20 swimmers got caught in a rip.

"How crazy is that, all these years later, to win two race back to back," said Bevilacqua, 31, the surf star who grew up in Tasmania and became the first athlete from the apple isle to compete on the professional iron series when still in his teens.

"My dad was saying we came here for an interstates and it almost broke me. I was so far behind and dad was scared I wasn't coming back in. I nearly drowned. I remember it so well, being on a nipper board and barely scrapping home.

"But I also remember telling dad I was OK and I'd get them in a few years."

The back-to-back wins in rounds three and four in Sydney on the weekend have put Bevilacqua within a point of series leader Ali Day who missed the podium for the first time this series for his seventh place in Sunday's survival format racing after being washed from his ski in the final race.

Bevilacqua is the defending series champion but until Saturday had not won a leg for more than a year.

"It's been a good weekend for sure," said Bevilacqua who stole a kiss from girlfriend and ironwoman Brielle Cooper as he ran up the beach for his win over Newport's Jackson Borg.

In the women's racing, defending champion Georgia Miller was knocked out early, clearing a path for Lana Rogers's to extend her lead in the current series heading into the final two rounds at Kurrawa on February 3-4.

Matt Bevilacqua won his second round of the Nutri-Grain ironman series in 24 hours at Maroubra Beach. Picture: HarvPix

The mass rescue at Maroubra beach. Picture: Supplied

Surf stars rise to occasion in mass rescue on beach

Amanda Lulham

Australia's top surf life savers were involved in a mass rescue of swimmers – including children – swept out to sea at Maroubra on Sunday just minutes after they had finished racing a round of the famous Nutri-Grain surf ironman and ironwoman series.

Women's winner Lana Rogers heard the rescue call go out on the radio around 3pm and immediately started to swim out to the swimmers in distress.

Newport's Jackson Borg was with fellow surf life saver and kayaker Jimmy Walker who saw the start of the rescue from the sand with the pair also rushing to help the distressed swimmers.

Surf Life Saving Australia national sports manager Wayne Drury said 25 people were involved in the drama triggered by a "freak rip" which dragged them down the beach and out to sea.

"There were about 20 or 30 people, I'm not sure of the number, but they are all fine thankfully," Rogers told The Daily Telegraph soon after.

"The water here moves quickly and they got swept out to sea.

"I just heard "rescue, rescue, rescue' on the radio and immediately we all just responded. It's what we do. It happened very quickly and everyone just reacted."

Rogers said it was the first time in 12 years of patrols she has been involved in a rescue.

"I only played a small part and we're just happy everyone is OK," she said.

Drury said four swimmers required medical assistance when they were returned to shore.

He confirmed most of the swimmers were tourists, including some from Ireland, who had been swimming between the flags but were dragged out to sea by the rip.

"It's what we are here for, it's what we do but I've never seen such a mass rescue during a competitions" Drury said

Jackson Borg, one of the stars of the ironman racing on Sunday, played a major role in the rescue and was one of the first to reach the struggling swimmers.

Barbora Krejcikova celebrates during her win.

Relief for Krejcikova after win

Former French Open champion Barbora Krejcikova survived a scare to reach the second round of the Australian Open on Sunday, beating Japanese wildcard Mai Hontama 2-6, 6-4, 6-3.

The Czech ninth seed, who triumphed at Roland Garros in 2021, struggled with her serve on Margaret Court Arena and was broken six times in total by her 122nd-ranked opponent.

But she dug deep when trailing 3-1 in the second set after losing the opener and eventually turned the tables.

Hontama, 24, playing in just her second Grand Slam, broke twice in the opening set to take a grip on the match.

There were multiple breaks in the second set but Krejcikova produced a powerful forehand winner to hold in the ninth game and edge ahead 5-4, seizing her chance to level the match.

The Czech player, 28, needed a medical time-out when 3-2 up in the decider, receiving heavy strapping to her foot and ankle.

But she showed no signs of discomfort as she returned to the court, conjuring a crucial break in a long eighth game to leave her on the brink of victory, which she sealed when Hontama went long with a forehand.

Krejcikova said she was relieved to get through a "difficult match", which lasted 2 hours and 30 mins.

"I just tried to stay in the match," she said.

"In the second set I was down.

"But I never let go and I never gave up."

DEMON'S SPEED TEST

Big-serving Canadian looms as tough first-round foe

Callum Dick

One of the fastest serves in tennis history stands between Alex de Minaur and an Australian Open second round berth.

With an official top speed of 249.9km/h, the missile that is Milos Raonic's serve has tormented the ATP Tour for more than a decade – and the Aussie No. 1 is its next target.

He's beaten Rafael Nadal, Roger Federer and Andy Murray while in their primes and gave Novak Djokovic one of the sternest tests of his run to the 2021 Australian Open title.

De Minaur might have chuckled when he saw his name placed next to the world No. 317.

Raonic, a former Wimbledon runner-up and five-time Australian Open quarter-finalist, is hardly the cushy opening round draw oft expected for one of the top seeds.

After almost two years away from the tour battling injury, the 33-year-old Canadian is back up and running and ready to break Aussie hearts.

The former world No. 3 has saved his best tennis for Melbourne Park, where he boasts a 34-11 record and has reached the fourth round or better on eight occasions.

One man who knows how dangerous Raonic can be is recently-retired Aussie star, John Millman. Millman rates Raonic as the most difficult serve he faced throughout his career. In one of their clashes at Wimbledon, the Canadian "nearly put me into the stands," he said. "I went up to near the baseline and he put one through me which nearly made me fall over."

But Millman believes de Minaur's skill set makes him a match-up nightmare for Raonic, not the other way around. "I used to hate having to face those big servers, especially early in a tournament," Millman said. "Sometimes the game can get taken out of your hands. The good news for Australian fans is that last year, Alex was the fifth-best returner on tour."

Last year, only the current world top four – Djokovic, Alcaraz, Medvedev and Sinner – boasted better return games than de Minaur.

Between 2012 and 2019, Raonic won 91 per cent of his service games. That figure would have comfortably led the ATP Tour last year.

But the Canadian is only nine games into his comeback, while de Minaur is coming off a trio of top 10 scalps – including Djokovic – at the United Cup.

De Minaur and Raonic open the Monday night session on Rod Laver Arena from 7pm.

Australia's Adam Walton reaches for a backhand during his Australian Open loss to Italy's Matteo Arnaldi in Melbourne. Picture: Darrian Traynor/Getty Images

Italian job on Aussie sealed emphatically

Rebecca Williams

The debut grand slam of Australian wildcard Adam Walton is over after just one match following his straight-sets loss on the opening day at Melbourne Park.

The first local hope on court at the Australian Open, Walton made a strong start against Italian Matteo Arnaldi before falling 7-6 (7-5) 6-2 6-4 on Kia Arena.

Walton, 24, pushed Arnaldi in an opening-set tiebreak but the world No. 41 swept past the unseeded Australian in the second set. Arnaldi looked to be in control at 3-1 in the third set but faced resistance from Walton, who is ranked 176 in the world.

The Italian sealed his win with an ace to take his tally to 16-1 for the match, while he also had 57 winners to 21.

Arnaldi will face the winner of Alex de Minaur and Milos Raonic in the second round.

Sinner sees off spirited challenge

Fourth seed Jannik Sinner fired up his bid for a maiden Grand Slam title with a hard-fought straight-sets victory over Dutchman Botic van de Zandschulp at the Australian Open on Sunday.

The 22-year-old Italian enjoyed a breakthrough 2023, winning his first Masters title, in Toronto, and making the championship match against Novak Djokovic at the ATP Finals.

It sparked expectations that it is only a matter of time before he wins a major.

And Sinner came through a tough encounter at Melbourne Park to open his 2024 account, beating the 59th-ranked Dutchman 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 on Rod Laver Arena.

"My first match of the season and it means a lot to start off with a win," said Sinner, who reached his first Grand Slam semi-final at Wimbledon last year.

"The tournament is one where I would like to play as good as possible and hopefully I can show some more in the next round.

"Physically I feel good in good shape, the first round is never easy so I can be happy with today."

It was Sinner's first competitive match of the year after he opted against a warm-up tournament.

Italy's Jannik Sinner hits a return.

But he showed few signs of rust, breaking Van de Zandschulp's opening service game and powering through the first set in 46 minutes.

But the Dutchman, a former US Open quarter-finalist, refused to go quietly, hitting the ball so hard in the second set that his racquet strings snapped.

There was little between them as they battled to 5-5 before Van de Zandschulp netted a backhand to give the Italian the crucial break.

He then served out for a two-set lead.

Once again, the Dutchman put up resistance in the third, breaking to open up a 2-0 advantage.

But it was a temporary wobble by Sinner, who responded by breaking twice in succession and surged 4-2 clear and there was no way back.

At a career-high four in the world, Sinner also won titles last year in Montpellier, Vienna and Beijing.

He was also instrumental in helping Italy win the Davis Cup.

Djoker gets serious about Shelton row

Novak Djokovic has reignited his feud with US rising star Ben Shelton, calling the youngster "unsportsmanlike" in an interview with French newspaper L'Equipe.

They clashed at last year's US Open when, after a win, Djokovic imitated Shelton's trademark celebration.

At the time, Djokovic, who mimicked Shelton's "dialled in" phone call celebration then slammed down the phone, said he did it out of admiration. "I just love Ben's celebration," Djokovic said after his win last year. "I thought it was very original and I copied him. I stole his celebration."

Shelton's father Bryan was less impressed and suggested Djokovic's actions were designed to mock his son.

"He wanted to mock Ben at the end," Bryan Shelton said.

"It wasn't something he was doing just to copy Ben. It was to mock him."

Djokovic reopened the feud in his L'Equipe interview. "It was a reaction against him, he didn't behave properly, with respect, on court and before the match," the world No. 1 said. "If anyone places himself in the unsportsmanlike zone, I react."

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OFFICIAL TEAM PARTNER

Australian Sierra Kerr after winning the final at the 2023 Sambazon World Junior Championships in San Diego. Picture: Kenny Morris/World Surf League

NEW KERR ON TOP

TOP OF THE WORLD

There is a new Kerr on top of the world after the daughter of an Australian legend took out the 2023 World Junior Championships.

Making waves of her own legacy, 16-year-old Sierra Kerr, daughter of aerial pioneer and long-time Australian CT surfer Josh Kerr, became the junior champion after defeating USA's Zoe Benedetto in the final of the junior championships in California. The victory serves as Kerr's maiden World Junior title earning her a place in the 2024 Challenger Series kicking off in April.

"That was the craziest heat," said Kerr.

"It's amazing to win.

"I feel like I haven't been surfing that good this contest and I went in the final just going to leave nothing on the table.

"I felt like I actually surfed good, so I was frothing.

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